

# Package ‘mvgam’

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**Title** Multivariate (Dynamic) Generalized Additive Models

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## Description

Fit Bayesian Dynamic Generalized Additive Models to sets of time series. Users can build dynamic nonlinear State-Space models that can incorporate semiparametric effects in observation and process components, using a wide range of observation families. Estimation is performed using Markov Chain Monte Carlo with Hamiltonian Monte Carlo in the software 'Stan'. References: Clark & Wells (2022) <[doi:10.1111/2041-210X.13974](https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.13974)>.

**URL** <https://github.com/nicholasjclark/mvgam>,  
<https://nicholasjclark.github.io/mvgam/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/nicholasjclark/mvgam/issues>

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---

add_residuals.mvgam	<i>Calculate randomized quantile residuals for mvgam objects</i>
---------------------	--

---

## Description

Calculate randomized quantile residuals for mvgam objects

## Usage

```
add_residuals(object, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
add_residuals(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
...	unused

## Details

For each series, randomized quantile (i.e. Dunn-Smyth) residuals are calculated for inspecting model diagnostics. If the fitted model is appropriate then Dunn-Smyth residuals will be standard normal in distribution and no autocorrelation will be evident. When a particular observation is missing, the residual is calculated by comparing independent draws from the model's posterior distribution.

**Value**

A list object of class `mvgam` with residuals included in the 'resids' slot

---

<code>all_neon_tick_data</code>	<i>NEON Amblyomma and Ixodes tick abundance survey data</i>
---------------------------------	---

---

**Description**

A dataset containing timeseries of *Amblyomma americanum* and *Ixodes scapularis* nymph abundances at NEON sites

**Usage**

```
all_neon_tick_data
```

**Format**

A tibble/dataframe containing covariate information alongside the main fields of:

**Year** Year of sampling

**epiWeek** Epidemiological week of sampling

**plot\_ID** NEON plot ID for survey location

**siteID** NEON site ID for survey location

**amblyomma\_americanum** Counts of *A. americanum* nymphs

**ixodes\_scapularis** Counts of *I. scapularis* nymphs

**Source**

<https://www.neonscience.org/data>

---

<code>code</code>	<i>Print the model code from an mvgam object</i>
-------------------	--

---

**Description**

Print the model code from an `mvgam` object

**Usage**

```
code(object)
```

**Arguments**

`object` list object returned from `mvgam`

**Value**

A character string containing the model code in a tidy format

---

 conditional\_effects.mvgam

*Display Conditional Effects of Predictors*


---

## Description

Display conditional effects of one or more numeric and/or categorical predictors in mvgam models, including two-way interaction effects.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
conditional_effects(
  x,
  effects = NULL,
  type = "response",
  points = TRUE,
  rug = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam_conditional_effects'
plot(x, plot = TRUE, ask = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam_conditional_effects'
print(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

x	Object of class mvgam or mvgam_conditional_effects
effects	An optional character vector naming effects (main effects or interactions) for which to compute conditional plots. Interactions are specified by a : between variable names. If NULL (the default), plots are generated for all main effects and two-way interactions estimated in the model. When specifying effects manually, <i>all</i> two-way interactions (including grouping variables) may be plotted even if not originally modeled.
type	character specifying the scale of predictions. When this has the value link (default) the linear predictor is calculated on the link scale. If expected is used, predictions reflect the expectation of the response (the mean) but ignore uncertainty in the observation process. When response is used, the predictions take uncertainty in the observation process into account to return predictions on the outcome scale. Two special cases are also allowed: type latent_N will return the estimated latent abundances from an N-mixture distribution, while type detection will return the estimated detection probability from an N-mixture distribution

points	Logical. Indicates if the original data points should be added, but only if type == 'response'. Default is TRUE.
rug	Logical. Indicates if displays tick marks should be plotted on the axes to mark the distribution of raw data, but only if type == 'response'. Default is TRUE.
...	other arguments to pass to <a href="#">plot_predictions</a>
plot	Logical; indicates if plots should be plotted directly in the active graphic device. Defaults to TRUE.
ask	Logical. Indicates if the user is prompted before a new page is plotted. Only used if plot is TRUE. Default is FALSE.

### Details

This function acts as a wrapper to the more flexible [plot\\_predictions](#). When creating `conditional_effects` for a particular predictor (or interaction of two predictors), one has to choose the values of all other predictors to condition on. By default, the mean is used for continuous variables and the reference category is used for factors. Use [plot\\_predictions](#) to change these and create more bespoke conditional effects plots.

### Value

`conditional_effects` returns an object of class `mvgam_conditional_effects` which is a named list with one slot per effect containing a [ggplot](#) object, which can be further customized using the [ggplot2](#) package. The corresponding plot method will draw these plots in the active graphic device

### Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

### See Also

[plot\\_predictions](#), [plot\\_slopes](#)

### Examples

```
# Simulate some data
simdat <- sim_mvgam(family = poisson(),
                  seasonality = 'hierarchical')

# Fit a model
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, by = series, k = 5) + year:series,
            family = poisson(),
            data = simdat$data_train,
            chains = 2)

# Plot all main effects on the response scale
conditional_effects(mod)

# Change the prediction interval to 70% using plot_predictions() argument
# 'conf_level'
conditional_effects(mod, conf_level = 0.7)
```

```

# Plot all main effects on the link scale
conditional_effects(mod, type = 'link')

# Works the same for smooth terms, including smooth interactions
set.seed(0)
dat <- mgcv::gamSim(1, n = 200, scale = 2)
mod <- mvgam(y ~ te(x0, x1, k = 5) + s(x2, k = 6) + s(x3, k = 6),
            data = dat,
            family = gaussian(),
            chains = 2)
conditional_effects(mod)
conditional_effects(mod, conf_level = 0.5, type = 'link')

```

---

dynamic

*Defining dynamic coefficients in mvgam formulae*


---

## Description

Set up time-varying (dynamic) coefficients for use in mvgam models. Currently, only low-rank Gaussian Process smooths are available for estimating the dynamics of the time-varying coefficient.

## Usage

```
dynamic(variable, k, rho = 5, stationary = TRUE, scale = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

variable	The variable that the dynamic smooth will be a function of
k	Optional number of basis functions for computing approximate GPs. If missing, k will be set as large as possible to accurately estimate the nonlinear function
rho	Either a positive numeric stating the length scale to be used for approximating the squared exponential Gaussian Process smooth (see <a href="#">gp.smooth</a> for details) or missing, in which case the length scale will be estimated by setting up a Hilbert space approximate GP
stationary	Logical. If TRUE (the default) and rho is supplied, the latent Gaussian Process smooth will not have a linear trend component. If FALSE, a linear trend in the covariate is added to the Gaussian Process smooth. Leave at TRUE if you do not believe the coefficient is evolving with much trend, as the linear component of the basis functions can be hard to penalize to zero. This sometimes causes divergence issues in Stan. See <a href="#">gp.smooth</a> for details. Ignored if rho is missing (in which case a Hilbert space approximate GP is used)
scale	Logical; If TRUE (the default) and rho is missing, predictors are scaled so that the maximum Euclidean distance between two points is 1. This often improves sampling speed and convergence. Scaling also affects the estimated length-scale parameters in that they resemble those of scaled predictors (not of the original predictors) if scale is TRUE.

## Details

`mvgam` currently sets up dynamic coefficients as low-rank squared exponential Gaussian Process smooths via the call `s(time, by = variable, bs = "gp", m = c(2, rho, 2))`. These smooths, if specified with reasonable values for the length scale parameter, will give more realistic out of sample forecasts than standard splines such as thin plate or cubic. But the user must set the value for `rho`, as there is currently no support for estimating this value in `mgcv`. This may not be too big of a problem, as estimating latent length scales is often difficult anyway. The `rho` parameter should be thought of as a prior on the smoothness of the latent dynamic coefficient function (where higher values of `rho` lead to smoother functions with more temporal covariance structure. Values of `k` are set automatically to ensure enough basis functions are used to approximate the expected wiggleness of the underlying dynamic function (`k` will increase as `rho` decreases)

## Value

a list object for internal usage in `'mvgam'`

## Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

## Examples

```
# Simulate a time-varying coefficient
#(as a Gaussian Process with length scale = 10)
set.seed(1111)
N <- 200

# A function to simulate from a squared exponential Gaussian Process
sim_gp = function(N, c, alpha, rho){
  Sigma <- alpha ^ 2 *
    exp(-0.5 * ((outer(1:N, 1:N, "-") / rho) ^ 2)) +
    diag(1e-9, N)
  c + mgcv::rmvn(1,
    mu = rep(0, N),
    V = Sigma)
}

beta <- sim_gp(alpha = 0.75,
  rho = 10,
  c = 0.5,
  N = N)
plot(beta, type = 'l', lwd = 3,
  bty = 'l', xlab = 'Time',
  ylab = 'Coefficient',
  col = 'darkred')

# Simulate the predictor as a standard normal
predictor <- rnorm(N, sd = 1)

# Simulate a Gaussian outcome variable
out <- rnorm(N, mean = 4 + beta * predictor,
```



```

      sd = 0.25)
time <- seq_along(predictor)
plot(out, type = 'l', lwd = 3,
      bty = 'l', xlab = 'Time', ylab = 'Outcome',
      col = 'darkred')

# Gather into a data.frame and fit a dynamic coefficient model
data <- data.frame(out, predictor, time)

# Split into training and testing
data_train <- data[1:190,]
data_test <- data[191:200,]

# Fit a model using the dynamic function
mod <- mvgam(out ~
             # mis-specify the length scale slightly as this
             # won't be known in practice
             dynamic(predictor, rho = 8, stationary = TRUE),
             family = gaussian(),
             data = data_train,
             chains = 2)

# Inspect the summary
summary(mod)

# Plot the time-varying coefficient estimates
plot(mod, type = 'smooths')

# Extrapolate the coefficient forward in time
plot_mvgram_smooth(mod, smooth = 1, newdata = data)
abline(v = 190, lty = 'dashed', lwd = 2)

# Overlay the true simulated time-varying coefficient
lines(beta, lwd = 2.5, col = 'white')
lines(beta, lwd = 2)

```

---

evaluate\_mvgrams

*Evaluate forecasts from fitted mvgam objects*


---

## Description

Evaluate forecasts from fitted mvgam objects

## Usage

```

eval_mvgram(
  object,
  n_samples = 5000,
  eval_timepoint = 3,

```

```

    fc_horizon = 3,
    n_cores = 2,
    score = "drps",
    log = FALSE,
    weights
  )

roll_eval_mvgram(
  object,
  n_evaluations = 5,
  evaluation_seq,
  n_samples = 5000,
  fc_horizon = 3,
  n_cores = 2,
  score = "drps",
  log = FALSE,
  weights
)

compare_mvgrams(
  model1,
  model2,
  n_samples = 1000,
  fc_horizon = 3,
  n_evaluations = 10,
  n_cores = 2,
  score = "drps",
  log = FALSE,
  weights
)

```

### Arguments

object	list object returned from mvgram
n_samples	integer specifying the number of samples to generate from the model's posterior distribution
eval_timepoint	integer indexing the timepoint that represents our last 'observed' set of outcome data
fc_horizon	integer specifying the length of the forecast horizon for evaluating forecasts
n_cores	integer specifying number of cores for generating particle forecasts in parallel
score	character specifying the type of ranked probability score to use for evaluation. Options are: variogram, drps or crps
log	logical. Should the forecasts and truths be logged prior to scoring? This is often appropriate for comparing performance of models when series vary in their observation ranges
weights	optional vector of weights (where <code>length(weights) == n_series</code> ) for weighting pairwise correlations when evaluating the variogram score for multivariate

	forecasts. Useful for down-weighting series that have larger magnitude observations or that are of less interest when forecasting. Ignored if score != 'variogram'
n_evaluations	integer specifying the total number of evaluations to perform
evaluation_seq	Optional integer sequence specifying the exact set of timepoints for evaluating the model's forecasts. This sequence cannot have values <3 or > max(training timepoints) - fc_horizon
model1	list object returned from mvgram representing the first model to be evaluated
model2	list object returned from mvgram representing the second model to be evaluated

## Details

eval\_mvgram may be useful when both repeated fitting of a model using `update_mvgram` for exact leave-future-out cross-validation and approximate leave-future-out cross-validation using `lfo_cv` are impractical. The function generates a set of samples representing fixed parameters estimated from the full mvgram model and latent trend states at a given point in time. The trends are rolled forward a total of `fc_horizon` timesteps according to their estimated state space dynamics to generate an 'out-of-sample' forecast that is evaluated against the true observations in the horizon window. This function therefore simulates a situation where the model's parameters had already been estimated but we have only observed data up to the evaluation timepoint and would like to generate forecasts from the latent trends that have been observed up to that timepoint. Evaluation involves calculating an appropriate Rank Probability Score and a binary indicator for whether or not the true value lies within the forecast's 90% prediction interval

roll\_eval\_mvgram sets up a sequence of evaluation timepoints along a rolling window and iteratively calls eval\_mvgram to evaluate 'out-of-sample' forecasts. Evaluation involves calculating the Rank Probability Scores and a binary indicator for whether or not the true value lies within the forecast's 90% prediction interval

compare\_mvgrams automates the evaluation to compare two fitted models using rolling window forecast evaluation and provides a series of summary plots to facilitate model selection. It is essentially a wrapper for roll\_eval\_mvgram

## Value

For eval\_mvgram, a list object containing information on specific evaluations for each series (if using drps or crps as the score) or a vector of scores when using variogram.

For roll\_eval\_mvgram, a list object containing information on specific evaluations for each series as well as a total evaluation summary (taken by summing the forecast score for each series at each evaluation and averaging the coverages at each evaluation)

For compare\_mvgrams, a series of plots comparing forecast Rank Probability Scores for each competing model. A lower score is preferred. Note however that it is possible to select a model that ultimately would perform poorly in true out-of-sample forecasting. For example if a wiggly smooth function of 'year' is included in the model then this function will be learned prior to evaluating rolling window forecasts, and the model could generate very tight predictions as a result. But when forecasting ahead to timepoints that the model has not seen (i.e. next year), the smooth function will end up extrapolating, sometimes in very strange and unexpected ways. It is therefore recommended to only use smooth functions for covariates that are adequately measured in the data (i.e. 'seasonality', for example) to reduce possible extrapolation of smooths and let the latent trends in the mvgram

model capture any temporal dependencies in the data. These trends are time series models and so will provide much more stable forecasts

### See Also

[forecast](#), [score](#), [lfo\\_cv](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
# Simulate from a Poisson-AR2 model with a seasonal smooth
set.seed(100)
dat <- sim_mvgram(T = 75,
                  n_series = 1,
                  prop_trend = 0.75,
                  trend_model = 'AR2',
                  family = poisson())

# Fit an appropriate model
mod_ar2 <- mvgram(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
                 trend_model = AR(p = 2),
                 family = poisson(),
                 data = dat$data_train,
                 newdata = dat$data_test,
                 chains = 2)

# Fit a less appropriate model
mod_rw <- mvgram(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
                trend_model = RW(),
                family = poisson(),
                data = dat$data_train,
                newdata = dat$data_test,
                chains = 2)

# Compare Discrete Ranked Probability Scores for the testing period
fc_ar2 <- forecast(mod_ar2)
fc_rw <- forecast(mod_rw)
score_ar2 <- score(fc_ar2, score = 'drps')
score_rw <- score(fc_rw, score = 'drps')
sum(score_ar2$series_1$score)
sum(score_rw$series_1$score)

# Use rolling evaluation for approximate comparisons of 3-step ahead
# forecasts across the training period
compare_mvgrams(mod_ar2,
                mod_rw,
                fc_horizon = 3,
                n_samples = 1000,
                n_evaluations = 5)

# Now use approximate leave-future-out CV to compare
# rolling forecasts; start at time point 40 to reduce
```

```

# computational time and to ensure enough data is available
# for estimating model parameters
lfo_ar2 <- lfo_cv(mod_ar2,
                 min_t = 40,
                 fc_horizon = 3)
lfo_rw <- lfo_cv(mod_rw,
                 min_t = 40,
                 fc_horizon = 3)

# Plot Pareto-K values and ELPD estimates
plot(lfo_ar2)
plot(lfo_rw)

# Proportion of timepoints in which AR2 model gives
# better forecasts
length(which((lfo_ar2$elpds - lfo_rw$elpds) > 0)) /
  length(lfo_ar2$elpds)

# A higher total ELPD is preferred
lfo_ar2$sum_ELPD
lfo_rw$sum_ELPD

## End(Not run)

```

---

fitted.mvgam

*Expected Values of the Posterior Predictive Distribution*


---

## Description

This method extracts posterior estimates of the fitted values (i.e. the actual predictions, included estimates for any trend states, that were obtained when fitting the model). It also includes an option for obtaining summaries of the computed draws.

## Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
fitted(
  object,
  process_error = TRUE,
  scale = c("response", "linear"),
  summary = TRUE,
  robust = FALSE,
  probs = c(0.025, 0.975),
  ...
)

```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class <code>mvgam</code>
process_error	Logical. If TRUE and a dynamic trend model was fit, expected uncertainty in the process model is accounted for by using draws from the latent trend SD parameters. If FALSE, uncertainty in the latent trend component is ignored when calculating predictions
scale	Either "response" or "linear". If "response", results are returned on the scale of the response variable. If "linear", results are returned on the scale of the linear predictor term, that is without applying the inverse link function or other transformations.
summary	Should summary statistics be returned instead of the raw values? Default is TRUE..
robust	If FALSE (the default) the mean is used as the measure of central tendency and the standard deviation as the measure of variability. If TRUE, the median and the median absolute deviation (MAD) are applied instead. Only used if summary is TRUE.
probs	The percentiles to be computed by the <code>quantile</code> function. Only used if summary is TRUE.
...	Further arguments passed to <code>prepare_predictions</code> that control several aspects of data validation and prediction.

**Details**

This method gives the actual fitted values from the model (i.e. what you will see if you generate hindcasts from the fitted model using `hindcast.mvgam` with `type = 'expected'`). These predictions can be overly precise if a flexible dynamic trend component was included in the model. This is in contrast to the set of predict functions (i.e. `posterior_epred.mvgam` or `predict.mvgam`), which will assume any dynamic trend component has reached stationarity when returning hypothetical predictions

**Value**

An array of predicted *mean* response values. If `summary = FALSE` the output resembles those of `posterior_epred.mvgam` and `predict.mvgam`.

If `summary = TRUE` the output is an `n_observations x E` matrix. The number of summary statistics `E` is equal to `2 + length(probs)`: The `Estimate` column contains point estimates (either mean or median depending on argument `robust`), while the `Est.Error` column contains uncertainty estimates (either standard deviation or median absolute deviation depending on argument `robust`). The remaining columns starting with `Q` contain quantile estimates as specified via argument `probs`.

**See Also**

[hindcast.mvgam](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# Simulate some data and fit a model
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
             trend_model = 'AR1',
             data = simdat$data_train,
             chains = 2,
             burnin = 300,
             samples = 300)

# Extract fitted values (posterior expectations)
expectations <- fitted(mod)
str(expectations)

## End(Not run)
```

---

forecast.mvgam	<i>Extract or compute hindcasts and forecasts for a fitted mvgam object</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

Extract or compute hindcasts and forecasts for a fitted mvgam object

**Usage**

```
forecast(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
forecast(object, newdata, data_test, n_cores = 1, type = "response", ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
...	Ignored
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing at least 'series' and 'time' in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of the original formula. If included, the covariate information in newdata will be used to generate forecasts from the fitted model equations. If this same newdata was originally included in the call to mvgam, then forecasts have already been produced by the generative model and these will simply be extracted and plotted. However if no newdata was supplied to the original model call, an assumption is made that the newdata supplied here comes sequentially after the data supplied in the original model (i.e. we assume there is no time gap between the last observation of series 1 in the original data and the first observation for series 1 in newdata)

data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
n_cores	integer specifying number of cores for generating forecasts in parallel
type	When this has the value link (default) the linear predictor is calculated on the link scale. If expected is used, predictions reflect the expectation of the response (the mean) but ignore uncertainty in the observation process. When response is used, the predictions take uncertainty in the observation process into account to return predictions on the outcome scale. When variance is used, the variance of the response with respect to the mean (mean-variance relationship) is returned. When type = "terms", each component of the linear predictor is returned separately in the form of a list (possibly with standard errors, if summary = TRUE): this includes parametric model components, followed by each smooth component, but excludes any offset and any intercept. Two special cases are also allowed: type latent_N will return the estimated latent abundances from an N-mixture distribution, while type detection will return the estimated detection probability from an N-mixture distribution

### Details

Posterior predictions are drawn from the fitted mvgam and used to simulate a forecast distribution

### Value

An object of class mvgam\_forecast containing hindcast and forecast distributions. See [mvgam\\_forecast-class](#) for details.

### See Also

[hindcast](#), [score](#)

### Examples

```
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 3, trend_model = AR())
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
            trend_model = AR(),
            noncentred = TRUE,
            data = simdat$data_train,
            chains = 2)

# Hindcasts on response scale
hc <- hindcast(mod)
str(hc)
plot(hc, series = 1)
plot(hc, series = 2)
plot(hc, series = 3)

# Forecasts on response scale
fc <- forecast(mod, newdata = simdat$data_test)
str(fc)
plot(fc, series = 1)
```



```

plot(fc, series = 2)
plot(fc, series = 3)

# Forecasts as expectations
fc <- forecast(mod, newdata = simdat$data_test, type = 'expected')
plot(fc, series = 1)
plot(fc, series = 2)
plot(fc, series = 3)

# Dynamic trend extrapolations
fc <- forecast(mod, newdata = simdat$data_test, type = 'trend')
plot(fc, series = 1)
plot(fc, series = 2)
plot(fc, series = 3)

```

---

formula.mvgam

*Extract formulae from mvgam objects*


---

## Description

Extract formulae from mvgam objects

## Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
formula(x, trend_effects = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam_predit'
formula(x, trend_effects = FALSE, ...)

```

## Arguments

x	mvgam or mvgam_predit object
trend_effects	logical, return the formula from the observation model (if FALSE) or from the underlying process model (if TRUE)
...	Ignored

## Value

A formula object

## Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

---

get\_mvgam\_priors      *Extract information on default prior distributions for an mvgam model*

---

### Description

This function lists the parameters that can have their prior distributions changed for a given mvgam model, as well listing their default distributions

### Usage

```
get_mvgam_priors(
  formula,
  trend_formula,
  data,
  data_train,
  family = "poisson",
  knots,
  use_lv = FALSE,
  n_lv,
  use_stan = TRUE,
  trend_model = "None",
  trend_map,
  drift = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

formula	A character string specifying the GAM observation model formula. These are exactly like the formula for a GLM except that smooth terms, <code>s()</code> , <code>te()</code> , <code>ti()</code> , <code>t2()</code> , as well as time-varying <code>dynamic()</code> terms, can be added to the right hand side to specify that the linear predictor depends on smooth functions of predictors (or linear functionals of these). In <code>nmix()</code> family models, the formula is used to set up a linear predictor for the detection probability. Details of the formula syntax used by <b>mvgam</b> can be found in <a href="#">mvgam_formulae</a>
trend_formula	An optional character string specifying the GAM process model formula. If supplied, a linear predictor will be modelled for the latent trends to capture process model evolution separately from the observation model. Should not have a response variable specified on the left-hand side of the formula (i.e. a valid option would be <code>~ season + s(year)</code> ). Also note that you should not use the identifier <code>series</code> in this formula to specify effects that vary across time series. Instead you should use <code>trend</code> . This will ensure that models in which a <code>trend_map</code> is supplied will still work consistently (i.e. by allowing effects to vary across process models, even when some time series share the same underlying process model). This feature is only currently available for <code>RW()</code> , <code>AR()</code> and <code>VAR()</code> trend models. In <code>nmix()</code> family models, the <code>trend_formula</code> is used to set up a linear predictor for the underlying latent abundance

data	<p>A dataframe or list containing the model response variable and covariates required by the GAM formula and optional trend_formula. Should include columns: #'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• series (a factor index of the series IDs; the number of levels should be identical to the number of unique series labels (i.e. <code>n_series = length(levels(data\$series))</code>))</li> <li>• time (numeric or integer index of the time point for each observation). For most dynamic trend types available in <code>mvgam</code> (see argument <code>trend_model</code>), time should be measured in discrete, regularly spaced intervals (i.e. <code>c(1, 2, 3, ...)</code>). However you can use irregularly spaced intervals if using <code>trend_model = CAR(1)</code>, though note that any temporal intervals that are exactly 0 will be adjusted to a very small number (<math>1e-12</math>) to prevent sampling errors. See an example of <code>CAR()</code> trends in <a href="#">CAR</a></li> </ul> <p>Should also include any other variables to be included in the linear predictor of formula</p>
data_train	<p>Deprecated. Still works in place of data but users are recommended to use data instead for more seamless integration into R workflows</p>
family	<p>family specifying the exponential observation family for the series. Currently supported families are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <code>gaussian()</code> for real-valued data</li> <li>• <code>betar()</code> for proportional data on <math>(0, 1)</math></li> <li>• <code>lognormal()</code> for non-negative real-valued data</li> <li>• <code>student_t()</code> for real-valued data</li> <li>• <code>Gamma()</code> for non-negative real-valued data</li> <li>• <code>bernoulli()</code> for binary data</li> <li>• <code>poisson()</code> for count data</li> <li>• <code>nb()</code> for overdispersed count data</li> <li>• <code>binomial()</code> for count data with imperfect detection when the number of trials is known; note that the <code>cbind()</code> function must be used to bind the discrete observations and the discrete number of trials</li> <li>• <code>beta_binomial()</code> as for <code>binomial()</code> but allows for overdispersion</li> <li>• <code>nmix()</code> for count data with imperfect detection when the number of trials is unknown and should be modeled via a State-Space N-Mixture model. The latent states are Poisson, capturing the 'true' latent abundance, while the observation process is Binomial to account for imperfect detection. See <a href="#">mvgam_families</a> for an example of how to use this family</li> </ul> <p>Note that only <code>nb()</code> and <code>poisson()</code> are available if using JAGS as the backend. Default is <code>poisson()</code>. See <a href="#">mvgam_families</a> for more details</p>
knots	<p>An optional list containing user specified knot values to be used for basis construction. For most bases the user simply supplies the knots to be used, which must match up with the <code>k</code> value supplied (note that the number of knots is not always just <code>k</code>). Different terms can use different numbers of knots, unless they share a covariate</p>
use_lv	<p>logical. If TRUE, use dynamic factors to estimate series' latent trends in a reduced dimension format. Only available for <code>RW()</code>, <code>AR()</code> and <code>GP()</code> trend models. Defaults to FALSE</p>

n_lv	integer the number of latent dynamic factors to use if use_lv == TRUE. Cannot be > n_series. Defaults arbitrarily to $\min(2, \text{floor}(n\_series / 2))$
use_stan	Logical. If TRUE, the model will be compiled and sampled using Hamiltonian Monte Carlo with a call to <code>cmdstan_model</code> or a call to <code>stan</code> . Note that there are many more options when using Stan vs JAGS
trend_model	character or function specifying the time series dynamics for the latent trend. Options are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None (no latent trend component; i.e. the GAM component is all that contributes to the linear predictor, and the observation process is the only source of error; similarly to what is estimated by <code>gam</code>)</li> <li>• 'RW' or <code>RW()</code></li> <li>• 'AR1' or <code>AR(p = 1)</code></li> <li>• 'AR2' or <code>AR(p = 2)</code></li> <li>• 'AR3' or <code>AR(p = 3)</code></li> <li>• 'CAR1' or <code>CAR(p = 1)</code></li> <li>• 'VAR1' or <code>VAR()</code> (only available in Stan)</li> <li>• 'PWlogistic', 'PWlinear' or <code>PW()</code> (only available in Stan)</li> <li>• 'GP' or <code>GP()</code> (Gaussian Process with squared exponential kernel; only available in Stan)</li> </ul> <p>For all trend types apart from <code>GP()</code>, <code>CAR()</code> and <code>PW()</code>, moving average and/or correlated process error terms can also be estimated (for example, <code>RW(cor = TRUE)</code> will set up a multivariate Random Walk if <code>n_series &gt; 1</code>). See <code>mvgam_trends</code> for more details</p>
trend_map	Optional data.frame specifying which series should depend on which latent trends. Useful for allowing multiple series to depend on the same latent trend process, but with different observation processes. If supplied, a latent factor model is set up by setting <code>use_lv = TRUE</code> and using the mapping to set up the shared trends. Needs to have column names <code>series</code> and <code>trend</code> , with integer values in the <code>trend</code> column to state which trend each series should depend on. The <code>series</code> column should have a single unique entry for each series in the data (names should perfectly match factor levels of the <code>series</code> variable in data). See examples for details
drift	logical estimate a drift parameter in the latent trend components. Useful if the latent trend is expected to broadly follow a non-zero slope. Only available for <code>RW()</code> and <code>AR()</code> trend models. Note that if the latent trend is more or less stationary, the drift parameter can become unidentifiable, especially if an intercept term is included in the GAM linear predictor (which it is by default when calling <code>jagam</code> ). Drift parameters will also likely be unidentifiable if using dynamic factor models. Therefore this defaults to FALSE

## Details

Users can supply a model formula, prior to fitting the model, so that default priors can be inspected and altered. To make alterations, change the contents of the `prior` column and supplying this data.frame to the `mvgam` function using the argument `priors`. If using Stan as the backend, users can also modify the parameter bounds by modifying the `new_lowerbound` and/or `new_upperbound`

columns. This will be necessary if using restrictive distributions on some parameters, such as a Beta distribution for the trend sd parameters for example (Beta only has support on  $(0, 1)$ ), so the upperbound cannot be above 1. Another option is to make use of the prior modification functions in brms (i.e. `prior`) to change prior distributions and bounds (just use the name of the parameter that you'd like to change as the `class` argument; see examples below)

### Value

either a `data.frame` containing the prior definitions (if any suitable priors can be altered by the user) or `NULL`, indicating that no priors in the model can be modified through the `mvgam` interface

### Note

Only the `prior`, `new_lowerbound` and/or `new_upperbound` columns of the output should be altered when defining the user-defined priors for the `mvgam` model. Use only if you are familiar with the underlying probabilistic programming language. There are no sanity checks done to ensure that the code is legal (i.e. to check that lower bounds are smaller than upper bounds, for example)

### Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

### See Also

[mvgam](#), [mvgam\\_formulae](#), [prior](#)

### Examples

```
# Simulate three integer-valued time series
library(mvgam)
dat <- sim_mvgam(trend_rel = 0.5)

# Get a model file that uses default mvgam priors for inspection (not always necessary,
# but this can be useful for testing whether your updated priors are written correctly)
mod_default <- mvgam(y ~ s(series, bs = 're') +
  s(season, bs = 'cc') - 1,
  family = nb(),
  data = dat$data_train,
  trend_model = AR(p = 2),
  run_model = FALSE)

# Inspect the model file with default mvgam priors
code(mod_default)

# Look at which priors can be updated in mvgam
test_priors <- get_mvgam_priors(y ~ s(series, bs = 're') +
  s(season, bs = 'cc') - 1,
  family = nb(),
  data = dat$data_train,
  trend_model = AR(p = 2))

test_priors
```

```

# Make a few changes; first, change the population mean for the series-level
# random intercepts
test_priors$prior[2] <- 'mu_raw ~ normal(0.2, 0.5);'

# Now use stronger regularisation for the series-level AR2 coefficients
test_priors$prior[5] <- 'ar2 ~ normal(0, 0.25);'

# Check that the changes are made to the model file without any warnings by
# setting 'run_model = FALSE'
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(series, bs = 're') +
             s(season, bs = 'cc') - 1,
             family = nb(),
             data = dat$data_train,
             trend_model = AR(p = 2),
             priors = test_priors,
             run_model = FALSE)
code(mod)

# No warnings, the model is ready for fitting now in the usual way with the addition
# of the 'priors' argument

# The same can be done using 'brms' functions; here we will also change the ar1 prior
# and put some bounds on the ar coefficients to enforce stationarity; we set the
# prior using the 'class' argument in all brms prior functions
brmsprior <- c(prior(normal(0.2, 0.5), class = mu_raw),
              prior(normal(0, 0.25), class = ar1, lb = -1, ub = 1),
              prior(normal(0, 0.25), class = ar2, lb = -1, ub = 1))
brmsprior

mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(series, bs = 're') +
             s(season, bs = 'cc') - 1,
             family = nb(),
             data = dat$data_train,
             trend_model = AR(p = 2),
             priors = brmsprior,
             run_model = FALSE)
code(mod)

# Look at what is returned when an incorrect spelling is used
test_priors$prior[5] <- 'ar2_bananas ~ normal(0, 0.25);'
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(series, bs = 're') +
             s(season, bs = 'cc') - 1,
             family = nb(),
             data = dat$data_train,
             trend_model = AR(p = 2),
             priors = test_priors,
             run_model = FALSE)
code(mod)

# Example of changing parametric (fixed effect) priors
simdat <- sim_mvgam()

# Add a fake covariate

```

```

simdat$data_train$cov <- rnorm(NROW(simdat$data_train))

priors <- get_mvgam_priors(y ~ cov + s(season),
                        data = simdat$data_train,
                        family = poisson(),
                        trend_model = AR())

# Change priors for the intercept and fake covariate effects
priors$prior[1] <- '(Intercept) ~ normal(0, 1);'
priors$prior[2] <- 'cov ~ normal(0, 0.1);'

mod2 <- mvgam(y ~ cov + s(season),
             data = simdat$data_train,
             trend_model = AR(),
             family = poisson(),
             priors = priors,
             run_model = FALSE)

code(mod2)

# Likewise using 'brms' utilities (note that you can use
# Intercept rather than `(Intercept)` to change priors on the intercept
brmsprior <- c(prior(normal(0.2, 0.5), class = cov),
              prior(normal(0, 0.25), class = Intercept))

brmsprior

mod2 <- mvgam(y ~ cov + s(season),
             data = simdat$data_train,
             trend_model = AR(),
             family = poisson(),
             priors = brmsprior,
             run_model = FALSE)

code(mod2)

# The "class = 'b'" shortcut can be used to put the same prior on all
# 'fixed' effect coefficients (apart from any intercepts)
set.seed(0)
dat <- mgcv::gamSim(1, n = 200, scale = 2)
dat$time <- 1:NROW(dat)
mod <- mvgam(y ~ x0 + x1 + s(x2) + s(x3),
            priors = prior(normal(0, 0.75), class = 'b'),
            data = dat,
            family = gaussian(),
            run_model = FALSE)

code(mod)

```

**Description**

Set up low-rank approximate Gaussian Process trend models using Hilbert basis expansions in mvgam. This function does not evaluate its arguments – it exists purely to help set up a model with particular GP trend models.

**Usage**

```
GP(...)
```

**Arguments**

```
...          unused
```

**Details**

A GP trend is estimated for each series using **Hilbert space approximate Gaussian Processes**. In mvgam, latent squared exponential GP trends are approximated using by default 20 basis functions and using a multiplicative factor of  $c = 5/4$ , which saves computational costs compared to fitting full GPs while adequately estimating GP alpha and rho parameters.

**Value**

An object of class `mvgam_trend`, which contains a list of arguments to be interpreted by the parsing functions in mvgam

**See Also**

[gp](#)

---

```
hindcast.mvgam
```

```
Extract hindcasts for a fitted mvgam object
```

---

**Description**

Extract hindcasts for a fitted mvgam object

**Usage**

```
hindcast(object, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
```

```
hindcast(object, type = "response", ...)
```



**Arguments**

object	list object returned from <code>mvgam</code> . See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
...	Ignored
type	When this has the value <code>link</code> (default) the linear predictor is calculated on the link scale. If <code>expected</code> is used, predictions reflect the expectation of the response (the mean) but ignore uncertainty in the observation process. When <code>response</code> is used, the predictions take uncertainty in the observation process into account to return predictions on the outcome scale. When <code>variance</code> is used, the variance of the response with respect to the mean (mean-variance relationship) is returned. When <code>type = "terms"</code> , each component of the linear predictor is returned separately in the form of a list (possibly with standard errors, if <code>summary = TRUE</code> ): this includes parametric model components, followed by each smooth component, but excludes any offset and any intercept. Two special cases are also allowed: <code>type latent_N</code> will return the estimated latent abundances from an N-mixture distribution, while <code>type detection</code> will return the estimated detection probability from an N-mixture distribution

**Details**

Posterior retrodictions are drawn from the fitted `mvgam` and organized into a convenient format

**Value**

An object of class `mvgam_forecast` containing hindcast distributions. See [mvgam\\_forecast-class](#) for details.

**See Also**

[forecast.mvgam](#)

**Examples**

```
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 3, trend_model = AR())
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
             trend_model = AR(),
             noncentred = TRUE,
             data = simdat$data_train,
             chains = 2)

# Hindcasts on response scale
hc <- hindcast(mod)
str(hc)
plot(hc, series = 1)
plot(hc, series = 2)
plot(hc, series = 3)

# Hindcasts as expectations
hc <- hindcast(mod, type = 'expected')
str(hc)
plot(hc, series = 1)
```

```

plot(hc, series = 2)
plot(hc, series = 3)

# Estimated latent trends
hc <- hindcast(mod, type = 'trend')
str(hc)
plot(hc, series = 1)
plot(hc, series = 2)
plot(hc, series = 3)

```

---

index-mvgam

*Index mvgam objects*


---

## Description

Index mvgam objects

## Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
variables(x, ...)

```

## Arguments

`x` list object returned from `mvgam`. See [mvgam\(\)](#)

`...` Arguments passed to individual methods (if applicable).

## Value

a list object of the variables that can be extracted, along with their aliases

## Examples

```

## Not run:
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
            trend_model = AR(),
            data = simdat$data_train,
            burnin = 300,
            samples = 300,
            chains = 2)
variables(mod)

## End(Not run)

```

lfo\_cv.mvgam

*Approximate leave-future-out cross-validation of fitted mvgam objects***Description**

Approximate leave-future-out cross-validation of fitted mvgam objects

**Usage**

```
lfo_cv(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
lfo_cv(
  object,
  data,
  min_t,
  fc_horizon = 1,
  pareto_k_threshold = 0.7,
  silent = 1,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
...	Ignored
data	A dataframe or list containing the model response variable and covariates required by the GAM formula. Should include columns: 'series' (character or factor index of the series IDs) 'time' (numeric index of the time point for each observation). Any other variables to be included in the linear predictor of formula must also be present
min_t	Integer specifying the minimum training time required before making predictions from the data. Default is either 30, or whatever training time allows for at least 10 lfo-cv calculations (i.e. $\text{pmin}(\max(\text{data}\$time) - 10, 30)$ ). This value is essentially arbitrary so it is highly recommended to change it to something that is more suitable to the data and models being evaluated
fc_horizon	Integer specifying the number of time steps ahead for evaluating forecasts
pareto_k_threshold	Proportion specifying the threshold over which the Pareto shape parameter is considered unstable, triggering a model refit. Default is 0.7
silent	Verbosity level between 0 and 2. If 1 (the default), most of the informational messages of compiler and sampler are suppressed. If 2, even more messages are suppressed. The actual sampling progress is still printed. Set <code>refresh = 0</code> to turn this off as well. If using <code>backend = "rstan"</code> you can also set <code>open_progress = FALSE</code> to prevent opening additional progress bars.

## Details

Approximate leave-future-out cross-validation uses an expanding training window scheme to evaluate a model on its forecasting ability. The steps used in this function mirror those laid out in the [lfo vignette from the lfo package](#), written by Paul Bürkner, Jonah Gabry, Aki Vehtari. First, we refit the model using the first `min_t` observations to perform a single exact `fc_horizon`-ahead forecast step. This forecast is evaluated against the `min_t + fc_horizon` out of sample observations using the Expected Log Predictive Density (ELPD). Next, we approximate each successive round of expanding window forecasts by moving forward one step at a time for `i` in `1:N_evaluations` and re-weighting draws from the model's posterior predictive distribution using Pareto Smoothed Importance Sampling (PSIS). In each iteration `i`, PSIS weights are obtained for the next observation that would have been included in the model if we had re-fit (i.e. the last observation that would have been in the training data, or `min_t + i`). If these importance ratios are stable, we consider the approximation adequate and use the re-weighted posterior's forecast for evaluating the next holdout set of testing observations (`(min_t + i + 1):(min_t + i + fc_horizon)`). At some point the importance ratio variability will become too large and importance sampling will fail. This is indicated by the estimated shape parameter `k` of the generalized Pareto distribution crossing a certain threshold `pareto_k_threshold`. Only then do we refit the model using all of the observations up to the time of the failure. We then restart the process and iterate forward until the next refit is triggered (Bürkner et al. 2020).

## Value

A list of class `mvgam_lfo` containing the approximate ELPD scores, the Pareto-k shape values and 'the specified `pareto_k_threshold`

## Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

## References

Paul-Christian Bürkner, Jonah Gabry & Aki Vehtari (2020). Approximate leave-future-out cross-validation for Bayesian time series models *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation*. 90:14, 2499-2523.

## See Also

[forecast](#), [score](#), [compare\\_mvgams](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# Simulate from a Poisson-AR2 model with a seasonal smooth
set.seed(100)
dat <- sim_mvgam(T = 75,
                 n_series = 1,
                 prop_trend = 0.75,
                 trend_model = 'AR2',
                 family = poisson())
```

```

# Plot the time series
plot_mvgam_series(data = dat$data_train,
                  newdata = dat$data_test,
                  series = 1)

# Fit an appropriate model
mod_ar2 <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
                trend_model = AR(p = 2),
                family = poisson(),
                data = dat$data_train,
                newdata = dat$data_test,
                burnin = 300,
                samples = 300,
                chains = 2)

# Fit a less appropriate model
mod_rw <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
                trend_model = RW(),
                family = poisson(),
                data = dat$data_train,
                newdata = dat$data_test,
                burnin = 300,
                samples = 300,
                chains = 2)

# Compare Discrete Ranked Probability Scores for the testing period
fc_ar2 <- forecast(mod_ar2)
fc_rw <- forecast(mod_rw)
score_ar2 <- score(fc_ar2, score = 'drps')
score_rw <- score(fc_rw, score = 'drps')
sum(score_ar2$series_1$score)
sum(score_rw$series_1$score)

# Now use approximate leave-future-out CV to compare
# rolling forecasts; start at time point 40 to reduce
# computational time and to ensure enough data is available
# for estimating model parameters
lfo_ar2 <- lfo_cv(mod_ar2,
                 min_t = 40,
                 fc_horizon = 3)
lfo_rw <- lfo_cv(mod_rw,
                 min_t = 40,
                 fc_horizon = 3)

# Plot Pareto-K values and ELPD estimates
plot(lfo_ar2)
plot(lfo_rw)

# Proportion of timepoints in which AR2 model gives better forecasts
length(which((lfo_ar2$elpds - lfo_rw$elpds) > 0)) /
  length(lfo_ar2$elpds)

# A higher total ELPD is preferred

```

```
lfo_ar2$sum_ELPD
lfo_rw$sum_ELPD

## End(Not run)
```

---

logLik.mvgam

*Compute pointwise Log-Likelihoods from fitted mvgam objects*


---

## Description

Compute pointwise Log-Likelihoods from fitted mvgam objects

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
logLik(object, linpreds, newdata, family_pars, include_forecast = TRUE, ...)
```

## Arguments

object	list object returned from mvgam
linpreds	Optional matrix of linear predictor draws to use for calculating pointwise log-likelihoods
newdata	Optional data.frame or list object specifying which series each column in linpreds belongs to. If linpreds is supplied, then newdata must also be supplied
family_pars	Optional list containing posterior draws of family-specific parameters (i.e. shape, scale or overdispersion parameters). Required if linpreds and newdata are supplied
include_forecast	Logical. If newdata were fed to the model to compute forecasts, should the log-likelihood draws for these observations also be returned. Defaults to TRUE
...	Ignored

## Value

A matrix of dimension `n_samples` x `n_observations` containing the pointwise log-likelihood draws for all observations in `newdata`. If no `newdata` is supplied, log-likelihood draws are returned for all observations that were originally fed to the model (training observations and, if supplied to the original model via the `newdata` argument in [mvgam](#), testing observations)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# Simulate some data and fit a model
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
             trend_model = AR(),
```

```

      data = simdat$data_train,
      burnin = 300,
      samples = 300,
      chains = 2)

# Extract logLikelihood values
lls <- logLik(mod)
str(lls)

## End(Not run)

```

---

 loo.mvgam

*LOO information criteria for mvgam models*


---

### Description

Extract the LOOIC (leave-one-out information criterion) using `loo::loo()`

### Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
loo(x, incl_dynamics = TRUE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
loo_compare(x, ..., model_names = NULL, incl_dynamics = TRUE)

```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	Object of class <code>mvgam</code>
<code>incl_dynamics</code>	Logical; indicates if any latent dynamic structures that were included in the model should be considered when calculating in-sample log-likelihoods. Defaults to TRUE
<code>...</code>	More <code>mvgam</code> objects.
<code>model_names</code>	If NULL (the default) will use model names derived from deparsing the call. Otherwise will use the passed values as model names.

### Details

When comparing two (or more) fitted `mvgam` models, we can estimate the difference in their in-sample predictive accuracies using the Expected Log Predictive Density (ELPD). This metric can be approximated using Pareto Smoothed Importance Sampling, which is a method to re-weight posterior draws to approximate what predictions the models might have made for a given datapoint had that datapoint not been included in the original model fit (i.e. if we were to run a leave-one-out cross-validation and then made a prediction for the held-out datapoint). See details from `loo::loo()` and `loo::loo_compare()` for further information on how this importance sampling works.

There are two fundamentally different ways to calculate ELPD from `mvgam` models that included dynamic latent processes (i.e. "trend\_models"). The first is to use the predictions that were generated when estimating these latent processes by setting `incl_dynamics = TRUE`. This works in the same way that setting `incl_autocor = TRUE` in `brms::prepare_predictions()`. But it may also be desirable to compare predictions by considering that the dynamic processes are nuisance parameters that we'd wish to account for when making inferences about other processes in the model (i.e. the linear predictor effects). Setting `incl_dynamics = FALSE` will accomplish this by ignoring the dynamic processes when making predictions. This option matches up with what `mvgam`'s prediction functions return (i.e. `predict.mvgam`, `ppc`, `pp_check.mvgam`, `posterior_epred.mvgam`) and will be far less forgiving of models that may be overfitting the training data due to highly flexible dynamic processes (such as Random Walks, for example). However setting `incl_dynamics = FALSE` will often result in less stable Pareto  $k$  diagnostics for models with dynamic trends, making ELPD comparisons difficult and unstable. It is therefore recommended to generally stick with `incl_dynamics = TRUE` when comparing models based on in-sample fits, and then to perhaps use forecast evaluations for further scrutiny of models (see for example `forecast.mvgam`, `score.mvgam_forecast` and `lfo_cv`)

## Value

for `loo.mvgam`, an object of class `psis_loo` (see `loo::loo()` for details). For `loo_compare.mvgam`, an object of class `compare_loo` (`loo::loo_compare()` for details)

## Examples

```
# Simulate 4 time series with hierarchical seasonality
# and independent AR1 dynamic processes
set.seed(111)
simdat <- sim_mvgam(seasonality = 'hierarchical',
                   trend_model = AR(),
                   family = gaussian())

# Fit a model with shared seasonality
mod1 <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
             data = rbind(simdat$data_train,
                          simdat$data_test),
             family = gaussian(),
             chains = 2)

# Inspect the model and calculate LOO
conditional_effects(mod1)
mc.cores.def <- getOption('mc.cores')
options(mc.cores = 1)
loo(mod1)

# Now fit a model with hierarchical seasonality
mod2 <- update(mod1,
              formula = y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6) +
                s(season, series, bs = 'fs',
                  xt = list(bs = 'cc'), k = 4),
              chains = 2)
conditional_effects(mod2)
```



```

loo(mod2)

# Now add AR1 dynamic errors to mod2
mod3 <- update(mod2,
               trend_model = AR(),
               chains = 2)
conditional_effects(mod3)
plot(mod3, type = 'trend')
loo(mod3)

# Compare models using LOO
loo_compare(mod1, mod2, mod3)
options(mc.cores = mc.cores.def)

# Compare forecast abilities using an expanding training window and
# forecasting ahead 1 timepoint from each window; the first window by includes
# the first 92 timepoints (of the 100 that were simulated)
max(mod2$obs_data$time)
lfo_mod2 <- lfo_cv(mod2, min_t = 92)
lfo_mod3 <- lfo_cv(mod3, min_t = 92)

# Take the difference in forecast ELPDs; a model with higher ELPD is preferred,
# so negative values here indicate that mod3 gave better forecasts for a particular
# out of sample timepoint
plot(y = lfo_mod2$elpds - lfo_mod3$elpds,
     x = lfo_mod2$eval_timepoints, pch = 16,
     ylab = 'ELPD_mod2 - ELPD_mod3',
     xlab = 'Evaluation timepoint')
abline(h = 0, lty = 'dashed')

```

---

Iv\_correlations

*Calculate trend correlations based on mvgam latent factor loadings*


---

### Description

This function uses samples of latent trends for each series from a fitted mvgam model to calculate correlations among series' trends

### Usage

```
Iv_correlations(object)
```

### Arguments

object            list object returned from mvgam

### Value

A list object containing the mean posterior correlations and the full array of posterior correlations

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
simdat <- sim_mvgam()
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc',
                  k = 6),
            trend_model = AR(),
            use_lv = TRUE,
            n_lv = 2,
            data = simdat$data_train,
            burnin = 300,
            samples = 300,
            chains = 2)
lvcors <- lv_correlations(mod)
names(lvcors)
lapply(lvcors, class)

## End(Not run)
```

mcmc\_plot.mvgam

*MCMC plots as implemented in **bayesplot*****Description**

Convenient way to call MCMC plotting functions implemented in the **bayesplot** package

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
mcmc_plot(
  object,
  type = "intervals",
  variable = NULL,
  regex = FALSE,
  use_alias = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	An R object typically of class <code>brmsfit</code>
type	The type of the plot. Supported types are (as names) <code>hist</code> , <code>dens</code> , <code>hist_by_chain</code> , <code>dens_overlay</code> , <code>violin</code> , <code>intervals</code> , <code>areas</code> , <code>areas_ridges</code> , <code>combo</code> , <code>acf</code> , <code>acf_bar</code> , <code>trace</code> , <code>trace_highlight</code> , <code>scatter</code> , <code>hex</code> , <code>pairs</code> , <code>violin_rhat</code> , <code>rhat</code> , <code>rhat_hist</code> , <code>neff</code> , <code>neff_hist</code> and <code>nuts_energy</code> . For an overview on the various plot types see <a href="#">MCMC-overview</a> .
variable	Names of the variables (parameters) to plot, as given by a character vector or a regular expression (if <code>regex = TRUE</code> ). By default, a hopefully not too large selection of variables is plotted.

regex	Logical; Indicates whether variable should be treated as regular expressions. Defaults to FALSE.
use_alias	Logical. If more informative names for parameters are available (i.e. for beta coefficients b or for smoothing parameters rho), replace the uninformative names with the more informative alias. Defaults to TRUE
...	Additional arguments passed to the plotting functions. See <a href="#">MCMC-overview</a> for more details.

**Value**

A [ggplot](#) object that can be further customized using the **ggplot2** package.

**See Also**

[mvgam\\_draws](#) for an overview of some of the shortcut strings that can be used for argument variable

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = AR())
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
            trend_model = AR(),
            noncentred = TRUE,
            data = simdat$data_train,
            chains = 2)
mcmc_plot(mod)
mcmc_plot(mod, type = 'neff_hist')
mcmc_plot(mod, variable = 'betas', type = 'areas')
mcmc_plot(mod, variable = 'trend_params', type = 'combo')

## End(Not run)
```

---

model.frame.mvgam	<i>Extract model.frame from a fitted mvgam object</i>
-------------------	---

---

**Description**

Extract model.frame from a fitted mvgam object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
model.frame(formula, trend_effects = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam_predit'
model.frame(formula, trend_effects = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

formula	a model <a href="#">formula</a> or <a href="#">terms</a> object or an R object.
trend_effects	logical, return the model.frame from the observation model (if FALSE) or from the underlying process model (if TRUE)
...	Ignored

**Value**

A matrix containing the fitted model frame

**Author(s)**

Nicholas J Clark

---

monotonic

*Monotonic splines in mvgam*

---

**Description**

Uses constructors from package **splines2** to build monotonically increasing or decreasing splines. Details also in Wang & Yan (2021).

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'moi.smooth.spec'
smooth.construct(object, data, knots)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mod.smooth.spec'
smooth.construct(object, data, knots)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'moi.smooth'
Predict.matrix(object, data)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mod.smooth'
Predict.matrix(object, data)
```

**Arguments**

object	A smooth specification object, usually generated by a term <code>s(x, bs = "moi", ...)</code> or <code>s(x, bs = "mod", ...)</code>
data	a list containing just the data (including any by variable) required by this term, with names corresponding to <code>object\$term</code> (and <code>object\$by</code> ). The by variable is the last element.
knots	a list containing any knots supplied for basis setup — in same order and with same names as data. Can be NULL. See details for further information.

**Details**

The constructor is not normally called directly, but is rather used internally by `mvgam`. If they are not supplied then the knots of the spline are placed evenly throughout the covariate values to which the term refers: For example, if fitting 101 data with an 11 knot spline of  $x$  then there would be a knot at every 10th (ordered)  $x$  value. The spline is an implementation of the closed-form I-spline basis based on the recursion formula given by Ramsay (1988), in which the basis coefficients must be constrained to either be non-negative (for monotonically increasing functions) or non-positive (monotonically decreasing)

Take note that when using either monotonic basis, the number of basis functions  $k$  must be supplied as an even integer due to the manner in which monotonic basis functions are constructed

**Value**

An object of class "moi.smooth" or "mod.smooth". In addition to the usual elements of a smooth class documented under `smooth.construct`, this object will contain a slot called `boundary` that defines the endpoints beyond which the spline will begin extrapolating (extrapolation is flat due to the first order penalty placed on the smooth function)

**Note**

This constructor will result in a valid smooth if using a call to `gam` or `bam`, however the resulting functions will not be guaranteed to be monotonic because constraints on basis coefficients will not be enforced

**Author(s)**

Nicholas J Clark

**References**

Wang, Wenjie, and Jun Yan. "Shape-Restricted Regression Splines with R Package splines2." *Journal of Data Science* 19.3 (2021).

Ramsay, J. O. (1988). Monotone regression splines in action. *Statistical Science*, 3(4), 425–441.

**Examples**

```
# Simulate data from a monotonically increasing function
set.seed(123123)
x <- runif(80) * 4 - 1
x <- sort(x)
f <- exp(4 * x) / (1 + exp(4 * x))
y <- f + rnorm(80) * 0.1
plot(x, y)

# A standard TRPS smooth doesn't capture monotonicity
mod_data <- data.frame(y = y, x = x)
mod <- gam(y ~ s(x, k = 16),
          data = mod_data,
```

```

        family = gaussian())

library(marginaleffects)
plot_predictions(mod,
                 by = 'x',
                 newdata = data.frame(x = seq(min(x) - 0.5,
                                              max(x) + 0.5,
                                              length.out = 100)),
                 points = 0.5)

# Using the 'moi' basis in mvgam rectifies this
mod_data$time <- 1:NROW(mod_data)
mod2 <- mvgam(y ~ s(x, bs = 'moi', k = 18),
             data = mod_data,
             family = gaussian(),
             chains = 2)

plot_predictions(mod2,
                 by = 'x',
                 newdata = data.frame(x = seq(min(x) - 0.5,
                                              max(x) + 0.5,
                                              length.out = 100)),
                 points = 0.5)

plot(mod2, type = 'smooth', realisations = TRUE)

# 'by' terms that produce a different smooth for each level of the 'by'
# factor are also allowed
set.seed(123123)
x <- runif(80) * 4 - 1
x <- sort(x)

# Two different monotonic smooths, one for each factor level
f <- exp(4 * x) / (1 + exp(4 * x))
f2 <- exp(3.5 * x) / (1 + exp(3 * x))
fac <- c(rep('a', 80), rep('b', 80))
y <- c(f + rnorm(80) * 0.1,
       f2 + rnorm(80) * 0.2)
plot(x, y[1:80])
plot(x, y[81:160])

# Gather all data into a data.frame, including the factor 'by' variable
mod_data <- data.frame(y, x, fac = as.factor(fac))
mod_data$time <- 1:NROW(mod_data)

# Fit a model with different smooths per factor level
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(x, bs = 'moi', by = fac, k = 8),
            data = mod_data,
            family = gaussian(),
            chains = 2)

# Visualise the different monotonic functions
plot_predictions(mod, condition = c('x', 'fac', 'fac'),

```

```

      points = 0.5)
plot(mod, type = 'smooth', realisations = TRUE)

# First derivatives (on the link scale) should never be
# negative for either factor level
(derivs <- slopes(mod, variables = 'x',
                 by = c('x', 'fac'),
                 type = 'link'))
all(derivs$estimate > 0)

```

---

mvgam

*Fit a Bayesian dynamic GAM to a univariate or multivariate set of time series*


---

## Description

This function estimates the posterior distribution for Generalised Additive Models (GAMs) that can include smooth spline functions, specified in the GAM formula, as well as latent temporal processes, specified by `trend_model`. Further modelling options include State-Space representations to allow covariates and dynamic processes to occur on the latent 'State' level while also capturing observation-level effects. Prior specifications are flexible and explicitly encourage users to apply prior distributions that actually reflect their beliefs. In addition, model fits can easily be assessed and compared with posterior predictive checks, forecast comparisons and leave-one-out / leave-future-out cross-validation.

## Usage

```

mvgam(
  formula,
  trend_formula,
  knots,
  trend_knots,
  data,
  data_train,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  run_model = TRUE,
  prior_simulation = FALSE,
  return_model_data = FALSE,
  family = "poisson",
  share_obs_params = FALSE,
  use_lv = FALSE,
  n_lv,
  trend_map,
  trend_model = "None",
  drift = FALSE,
  noncentred = FALSE,

```

```

chains = 4,
burnin = 500,
samples = 500,
thin = 1,
parallel = TRUE,
threads = 1,
priors,
refit = FALSE,
lfo = FALSE,
residuals = TRUE,
use_stan = TRUE,
backend = getOption("brms.backend", "cmdstanr"),
algorithm = getOption("brms.algorithm", "sampling"),
autofmt = TRUE,
save_all_pars = FALSE,
max_treedepth = 12,
adapt_delta = 0.85,
silent = 1,
jags_path,
...
)

```

### Arguments

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| formula       | A character string specifying the GAM observation model formula. These are exactly like the formula for a GLM except that smooth terms, <code>s()</code> , <code>te()</code> , <code>ti()</code> , <code>t2()</code> , as well as time-varying dynamic() terms, can be added to the right hand side to specify that the linear predictor depends on smooth functions of predictors (or linear functionals of these). In <code>nmix()</code> family models, the formula is used to set up a linear predictor for the detection probability. Details of the formula syntax used by <b>mvgam</b> can be found in <a href="#">mvgam_formulae</a>   |
| trend_formula | An optional character string specifying the GAM process model formula. If supplied, a linear predictor will be modelled for the latent trends to capture process model evolution separately from the observation model. Should not have a response variable specified on the left-hand side of the formula (i.e. a valid option would be <code>~ season + s(year)</code> ). Also note that you should not use the identifier series in this formula to specify effects that vary across time series. Instead you should use <code>trend</code> . This will ensure that models in which a <code>trend_map</code> is supplied will still work consistently (i.e. by allowing effects to vary across process models, even when some time series share the same underlying process model). This feature is only currently available for <code>RW()</code> , <code>AR()</code> and <code>VAR()</code> trend models. In <code>nmix()</code> family models, the <code>trend_formula</code> is used to set up a linear predictor for the underlying latent abundance |
| knots         | An optional list containing user specified knot values to be used for basis construction. For most bases the user simply supplies the knots to be used, which must match up with the <code>k</code> value supplied (note that the number of knots is not always just <code>k</code> ). Different terms can use different numbers of knots, unless they share a covariate   |



trend_knots	As for knots above, this is an optional list of knot values for smooth functions within the trend_formula
data	<p>A dataframe or list containing the model response variable and covariates required by the GAM formula and optional trend_formula. Should include columns: #'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• series (a factor index of the series IDs; the number of levels should be identical to the number of unique series labels (i.e. <code>n_series = length(levels(data\$series))</code>))</li> <li>• time (numeric or integer index of the time point for each observation). For most dynamic trend types available in mvgam (see argument <code>trend_model</code>), time should be measured in discrete, regularly spaced intervals (i.e. <code>c(1, 2, 3, ...)</code>). However you can use irregularly spaced intervals if using <code>trend_model = CAR(1)</code>, though note that any temporal intervals that are exactly 0 will be adjusted to a very small number (<math>1e-12</math>) to prevent sampling errors. See an example of <code>CAR()</code> trends in <a href="#">CAR</a></li> </ul> <p>Should also include any other variables to be included in the linear predictor of formula</p>
data_train	Deprecated. Still works in place of data but users are recommended to use data instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing at least series and time in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If included, the observations in variable y will be set to NA when fitting the model so that posterior simulations can be obtained
data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
run_model	logical. If FALSE, the model is not fitted but instead the function will return the model file and the data / initial values that are needed to fit the model outside of mvgam
prior_simulation	logical. If TRUE, no observations are fed to the model, and instead simulations from prior distributions are returned
return_model_data	logical. If TRUE, the list of data that is needed to fit the model is returned, along with the initial values for smooth and AR parameters, once the model is fitted. This will be helpful if users wish to modify the model file to add other stochastic elements that are not currently available in mvgam. Default is FALSE to reduce the size of the returned object, unless <code>run_model == FALSE</code>
family	<p>family specifying the exponential observation family for the series. Currently supported families are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <code>gaussian()</code> for real-valued data</li> <li>• <code>betar()</code> for proportional data on <math>(0, 1)</math></li> <li>• <code>lognormal()</code> for non-negative real-valued data</li> <li>• <code>student_t()</code> for real-valued data</li> <li>• <code>Gamma()</code> for non-negative real-valued data</li> <li>• <code>bernoulli()</code> for binary data</li> </ul>

- `poisson()` for count data
- `nb()` for overdispersed count data
- `binomial()` for count data with imperfect detection when the number of trials is known; note that the `cbind()` function must be used to bind the discrete observations and the discrete number of trials
- `beta_binomial()` as for `binomial()` but allows for overdispersion
- `nmix()` for count data with imperfect detection when the number of trials is unknown and should be modeled via a State-Space N-Mixture model. The latent states are Poisson, capturing the 'true' latent abundance, while the observation process is Binomial to account for imperfect detection. See [mvgam\\_families](#) for an example of how to use this family

Note that only `nb()` and `poisson()` are available if using JAGS as the backend. Default is `poisson()`. See [mvgam\\_families](#) for more details

<code>share_obs_params</code>	logical. If TRUE and the family has additional family-specific observation parameters (e.g. variance components in <code>student_t()</code> or <code>gaussian()</code> , or dispersion parameters in <code>nb()</code> or <code>betar()</code> ), these parameters will be shared across all series. This is handy if you have multiple time series that you believe share some properties, such as being from the same species over different spatial units. Default is FALSE.
<code>use_lv</code>	logical. If TRUE, use dynamic factors to estimate series' latent trends in a reduced dimension format. Only available for <code>RW()</code> , <code>AR()</code> and <code>GP()</code> trend models. Defaults to FALSE
<code>n_lv</code>	integer the number of latent dynamic factors to use if <code>use_lv == TRUE</code> . Cannot be $> n\_series$ . Defaults arbitrarily to $\min(2, \text{floor}(n\_series / 2))$
<code>trend_map</code>	Optional data.frame specifying which series should depend on which latent trends. Useful for allowing multiple series to depend on the same latent trend process, but with different observation processes. If supplied, a latent factor model is set up by setting <code>use_lv = TRUE</code> and using the mapping to set up the shared trends. Needs to have column names <code>series</code> and <code>trend</code> , with integer values in the <code>trend</code> column to state which trend each series should depend on. The <code>series</code> column should have a single unique entry for each series in the data (names should perfectly match factor levels of the <code>series</code> variable in data). See examples for details
<code>trend_model</code>	character or function specifying the time series dynamics for the latent trend. Options are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None (no latent trend component; i.e. the GAM component is all that contributes to the linear predictor, and the observation process is the only source of error; similarly to what is estimated by <a href="#">gam</a>)</li> <li>• 'RW' or <code>RW()</code></li> <li>• 'AR1' or <code>AR(p = 1)</code></li> <li>• 'AR2' or <code>AR(p = 2)</code></li> <li>• 'AR3' or <code>AR(p = 3)</code></li> <li>• 'CAR1' or <code>CAR(p = 1)</code></li> <li>• 'VAR1' or <code>VAR()</code> (only available in Stan)</li> </ul>

- 'PWlogistic', 'PWlinear' or PW() (only available in Stan)
- 'GP' or GP() (Gaussian Process with squared exponential kernel; only available in Stan)

For all trend types apart from GP(), CAR() and PW(), moving average and/or correlated process error terms can also be estimated (for example, RW(cor = TRUE) will set up a multivariate Random Walk if n\_series > 1). See [mvgam\\_trends](#) for more details

drift	logical estimate a drift parameter in the latent trend components. Useful if the latent trend is expected to broadly follow a non-zero slope. Only available for RW() and AR() trend models. Note that if the latent trend is more or less stationary, the drift parameter can become unidentifiable, especially if an intercept term is included in the GAM linear predictor (which it is by default when calling <a href="#">jagam</a> ). Drift parameters will also likely be unidentifiable if using dynamic factor models. Therefore this defaults to FALSE
noncentred	logical experimental feature to use the non-centred parameterisation for trend models. Only available for certain trend models (i.e. RW(), AR(), or CAR()) with or without drift, or for trend = 'None' when using a trend_formula). Not yet available for moving average or correlated error models
chains	integer specifying the number of parallel chains for the model. Ignored if algorithm %in% c('meanfield', 'fullrank', 'pathfinder', 'laplace')
burnin	integer specifying the number of warmup iterations of the Markov chain to run to tune sampling algorithms. Ignored if algorithm %in% c('meanfield', 'fullrank', 'pathfinder', 'laplace')
samples	integer specifying the number of post-warmup iterations of the Markov chain to run for sampling the posterior distribution
thin	Thinning interval for monitors. Ignored if algorithm %in% c('meanfield', 'fullrank', 'pathfinder', 'laplace')
parallel	logical specifying whether multiple cores should be used for generating MCMC simulations in parallel. If TRUE, the number of cores to use will be min(c(chains, parallel::detectCores() - 1))
threads	integer Experimental option to use multithreading for within-chain parallelisation in Stan. We recommend its use only if you are experienced with Stan's reduce_sum function and have a slow running model that cannot be sped up by any other means. Only available for some families(poisson(), nb(), gaussian()) and when using Cmdstan as the backend
priors	An optional data.frame with prior definitions (in JAGS or Stan syntax). if using Stan, this can also be an object of class brmsprior (see. <a href="#">prior</a> for details). See <a href="#">get_mvgam_priors</a> and 'Details' for more information on changing default prior distributions
refit	Logical indicating whether this is a refit, called using <a href="#">update.mvgam</a> . Users should leave as FALSE
lfo	Logical indicating whether this is part of a call to <a href="#">lfo_cv.mvgam</a> . Returns a lighter version of the model with no residuals and fewer monitored parameters to speed up post-processing. But other downstream functions will not work properly, so users should always leave this set as FALSE

residuals	Logical indicating whether to compute series-level randomized quantile residuals and include them as part of the returned object. Defaults to TRUE, but you can set to FALSE to save computational time and reduce the size of the returned object (users can always add residuals to an object of class <code>mvgam</code> using <code>add_residuals</code> )
use_stan	Logical. If TRUE, the model will be compiled and sampled using Hamiltonian Monte Carlo with a call to <code>cmdstan_model</code> or a call to <code>stan</code> . Note that there are many more options when using Stan vs JAGS
backend	Character string naming the package to use as the backend for fitting the Stan model (if <code>use_stan = TRUE</code> ). Options are "cmdstanr" (the default) or "rstan". Can be set globally for the current R session via the "brms.backend" option (see <code>options</code> ). Details on the rstan and cmdstanr packages are available at <a href="https://mc-stan.org/rstan/">https://mc-stan.org/rstan/</a> and <a href="https://mc-stan.org/cmdstanr/">https://mc-stan.org/cmdstanr/</a> , respectively
algorithm	Character string naming the estimation approach to use. Options are "sampling" for MCMC (the default), "meanfield" for variational inference with factorized normal distributions, "fullrank" for variational inference with a multivariate normal distribution, "laplace" for a Laplace approximation (only available when using cmdstanr as the backend) or "pathfinder" for the pathfinder algorithm (only currently available when using cmdstanr as the backend). Can be set globally for the current R session via the "brms.algorithm" option (see <code>options</code> ). Limited testing suggests that "meanfield" performs best out of the non-MCMC approximations for dynamic GAMs, possibly because of the difficulties estimating covariances among the many spline parameters and latent trend parameters. But rigorous testing has not been carried out
autoformat	Logical. Use the stanc parser to automatically format the Stan code and check for deprecations. Defaults to TRUE
save_all_pars	Logical flag to indicate if draws from all variables defined in Stan's parameters block should be saved (default is FALSE).
max_treedepth	positive integer placing a cap on the number of simulation steps evaluated during each iteration when <code>use_stan == TRUE</code> . Default is 12. Increasing this value can sometimes help with exploration of complex posterior geometries, but it is rarely fruitful to go above a <code>max_treedepth</code> of 14
adapt_delta	positive numeric between 0 and 1 defining the target average proposal acceptance probability during Stan's adaptation period, if <code>use_stan == TRUE</code> . Default is 0.8. In general you should not need to change <code>adapt_delta</code> unless you see a warning message about divergent transitions, in which case you can increase <code>adapt_delta</code> from the default to a value closer to 1 (e.g. from 0.95 to 0.99, or from 0.99 to 0.999, etc). The step size used by the numerical integrator is a function of <code>adapt_delta</code> in that increasing <code>adapt_delta</code> will result in a smaller step size and fewer divergences. Increasing <code>adapt_delta</code> will typically result in a slower sampler, but it will always lead to a more robust sampler
silent	Verbosity level between 0 and 2. If 1 (the default), most of the informational messages of compiler and sampler are suppressed. If 2, even more messages are suppressed. The actual sampling progress is still printed. Set <code>refresh = 0</code> to turn this off as well. If using <code>backend = "rstan"</code> you can also set <code>open_progress = FALSE</code> to prevent opening additional progress bars.

jags_path	Optional character vector specifying the path to the location of the JAGS executable (.exe) to use for modelling if use_stan == FALSE. If missing, the path will be recovered from a call to <a href="#">findjags</a>
...	Further arguments passed to Stan. For backend = "rstan" the arguments are passed to <a href="#">sampling</a> or <a href="#">vb</a> . For backend = "cmdstanr" the arguments are passed to the <code>cmdstanr::sample</code> , <code>cmdstanr::variational</code> , <code>cmdstanr::laplace</code> or <code>cmdstanr::pathfinder</code> method

## Details

Dynamic GAMs are useful when we wish to predict future values from time series that show temporal dependence but we do not want to rely on extrapolating from a smooth term (which can sometimes lead to unpredictable and unrealistic behaviours). In addition, smooths can often try to wiggle excessively to capture any autocorrelation that is present in a time series, which exacerbates the problem of forecasting ahead. As GAMs are very naturally viewed through a Bayesian lens, and we often must model time series that show complex distributional features and missing data, parameters for `mvgam` models are estimated in a Bayesian framework using Markov Chain Monte Carlo by default. A general overview is provided in the primary vignettes: `vignette("mvgam_overview")` and `vignette("data_in_mvgam")`. For a full list of available vignettes see `vignette(package = "mvgam")`

*Formula syntax:* Details of the formula syntax used by `mvgam` can be found in [mvgam\\_formulae](#). Note that it is possible to supply an empty formula where there are no predictors or intercepts in the observation model (i.e.  $y \sim \emptyset$  or  $y \sim -1$ ). In this case, an intercept-only observation model will be set up but the intercept coefficient will be fixed at zero. This can be handy if you wish to fit pure State-Space models where the variation in the dynamic trend controls the average expectation, and/or where intercepts are non-identifiable (as in piecewise trends, see examples below)

*Families and link functions:* Details of families supported by `mvgam` can be found in [mvgam\\_families](#).

*Trend models:* Details of latent trend dynamic models supported by `mvgam` can be found in [mvgam\\_trends](#).

*Priors:* A `jagam` model file is generated from formula and modified to include any latent temporal processes. Default priors for intercepts and any scale parameters are generated using the same practice as `brms`. Prior distributions for most important model parameters can be altered by the user to inspect model sensitivities to given priors (see [get\\_mvgam\\_priors](#) for details). Note that latent trends are estimated on the link scale so choose priors accordingly. However more control over the model specification can be accomplished by first using `mvgam` as a baseline, then editing the returned model accordingly. The model file can be edited and run outside of `mvgam` by setting `run_model = FALSE` and this is encouraged for complex modelling tasks. Note, no priors are formally checked to ensure they are in the right syntax for the respective probabilistic modelling framework, so it is up to the user to ensure these are correct (i.e. use `dnorm` for normal densities in JAGS, with the mean and precision parameterisation; but use `normal` for normal densities in Stan, with the mean and standard deviation parameterisation)

*Random effects:* For any smooth terms using the random effect basis ([smooth.construct.re.smooth.spec](#)), a non-centred parameterisation is automatically employed to avoid degeneracies that are common

in hierarchical models. Note however that centred versions may perform better for series that are particularly informative, so as with any foray into Bayesian modelling, it is worth building an understanding of the model's assumptions and limitations by following a principled workflow. Also note that models are parameterised using `drop_unused_levels = FALSE` in `jagam` to ensure predictions can be made for all levels of the supplied factor variable

*Observation level parameters:* When more than one series is included in data and an observation family that contains more than one parameter is used, additional observation family parameters (i.e. `phi` for `nb()` or `sigma` for `gaussian()`) are by default estimated independently for each series. But if you wish for the series to share the same observation parameters, set `share_obs_params = TRUE`

*Factor regularisation:* When using a dynamic factor model for the trends with JAGS factor precisions are given regularized penalty priors to theoretically allow some factors to be dropped from the model by squeezing increasing factors' variances to zero. This is done to help protect against selecting too many latent factors than are needed to capture dependencies in the data, so it can often be advantageous to set `n_lv` to a slightly larger number. However larger numbers of factors do come with additional computational costs so these should be balanced as well. When using Stan, all factors are parameterised with fixed variance parameters

*Residuals:* For each series, randomized quantile (i.e. Dunn-Smyth) residuals are calculated for inspecting model diagnostics. If the fitted model is appropriate then Dunn-Smyth residuals will be standard normal in distribution and no autocorrelation will be evident. When a particular observation is missing, the residual is calculated by comparing independent draws from the model's posterior distribution

*Using Stan:* `mvgam` is primarily designed to use Hamiltonian Monte Carlo for parameter estimation via the software Stan (using either the `cmdstanr` or `rstan` interface). There are great advantages when using Stan over Gibbs / Metropolis Hastings samplers, which includes the option to estimate smooth latent trends via [Hilbert space approximate Gaussian Processes](#). This often makes sense for ecological series, which we expect to change smoothly. In `mvgam`, latent squared exponential GP trends are approximated using by default 20 basis functions, which saves computational costs compared to fitting full GPs while adequately estimating GP alpha and rho parameters. Because of the many advantages of Stan over JAGS, *further development of the package will only be applied to Stan*. This includes the planned addition of more response distributions, plans to handle zero-inflation, and plans to incorporate a greater variety of trend models. Users are strongly encouraged to opt for Stan over JAGS in any proceeding workflows

## Value

A list object of class `mvgam` containing model output, the text representation of the model file, the `mgcv` model output (for easily generating simulations at unsampled covariate values), Dunn-Smyth residuals for each series and key information needed for other functions in the package. See [mvgam-class](#) for details. Use `methods(class = "mvgam")` for an overview on available methods.

## Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

## References

Nicholas J Clark & Konstans Wells (2020). Dynamic generalised additive models (DGAMs) for forecasting discrete ecological time series. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*. 14:3, 771-784.

## See Also

[jagam](#), [gam](#), [gam.models](#),

## Examples

```
# Simulate a collection of three time series that have shared seasonal dynamics
# and independent AR1 trends, with a Poisson observation process
set.seed(0)
dat <- sim_mvgam(T = 80,
                n_series = 3,
                mu = 2,
                trend_model = AR(p = 1),
                prop_missing = 0.1,
                prop_trend = 0.6)

# Plot key summary statistics for a single series
plot_mvgam_series(data = dat$data_train, series = 1)

# Plot all series together
plot_mvgam_series(data = dat$data_train, series = 'all')

# Formulate a model using Stan where series share a cyclic smooth for
# seasonality and each series has an independent AR1 temporal process;
# Set run_model = FALSE to inspect the returned objects
mod1 <- mvgam(formula = y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
              data = dat$data_train,
              trend_model = AR(),
              family = poisson(),
              noncentred = TRUE,
              use_stan = TRUE,
              run_model = FALSE)

# View the model code in Stan language
code(mod1)

# Now fit the model, noting that 'noncentred = TRUE' will likely give performance gains
mod1 <- mvgam(formula = y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
              data = dat$data_train,
              trend_model = AR(),
              family = poisson(),
              noncentred = TRUE,
              chains = 2)

# Extract the model summary
summary(mod1)

# Plot the estimated historical trend and forecast for one series
```

```

plot(mod1, type = 'trend', series = 1)
plot(mod1, type = 'forecast', series = 1)

# Residual diagnostics
plot(mod1, type = 'residuals', series = 1)
resids <- residuals(mod1)
str(resids)

# Compute the forecast using covariate information in data_test
fc <- forecast(mod1, newdata = dat$data_test)
str(fc)
plot(fc)

# Plot the estimated seasonal smooth function
plot(mod1, type = 'smooths')

# Plot estimated first derivatives of the smooth
plot(mod1, type = 'smooths', derivatives = TRUE)

# Plot partial residuals of the smooth
plot(mod1, type = 'smooths', residuals = TRUE)

# Plot posterior realisations for the smooth
plot(mod1, type = 'smooths', realisations = TRUE)

# Plot conditional response predictions using marginaleffects
library(marginaleffects)
conditional_effects(mod1)
plot_predictions(mod1, condition = 'season', points = 0.5)

# Generate posterior predictive checks using bayesplot
pp_check(mod1)

# Extract observation model beta coefficient draws as a data.frame
beta_draws_df <- as.data.frame(mod1, variable = 'betas')
head(beta_draws_df)
str(beta_draws_df)

# Investigate model fit
mc.cores.def <- getOption('mc.cores')
options(mc.cores = 1)
loo(mod1)
options(mc.cores = mc.cores.def)

# Example of supplying a trend_map so that some series can share
# latent trend processes
sim <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 3)
mod_data <- sim$data_train

# Here, we specify only two latent trends; series 1 and 2 share a trend,
# while series 3 has it's own unique latent trend
trend_map <- data.frame(series = unique(mod_data$series),

```



```

trend = c(1, 1, 2))

# Fit the model using AR1 trends
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
            trend_map = trend_map,
            trend_model = AR(),
            data = mod_data,
            return_model_data = TRUE,
            chains = 2)

# The mapping matrix is now supplied as data to the model in the 'Z' element
mod$model_data$Z
code(mod)

# The first two series share an identical latent trend; the third is different
plot(mod, type = 'trend', series = 1)
plot(mod, type = 'trend', series = 2)
plot(mod, type = 'trend', series = 3)

# Example of how to use dynamic coefficients
# Simulate a time-varying coefficient for the effect of temperature
set.seed(123)
N <- 200
beta_temp <- vector(length = N)
beta_temp[1] <- 0.4
for(i in 2:N){
  beta_temp[i] <- rnorm(1, mean = beta_temp[i - 1] - 0.0025, sd = 0.05)
}
plot(beta_temp)

# Simulate a covariate called 'temp'
temp <- rnorm(N, sd = 1)

# Simulate the Gaussian observation process
out <- rnorm(N, mean = 4 + beta_temp * temp,
            sd = 0.5)

# Gather necessary data into a data.frame; split into training / testing
data = data.frame(out, temp, time = seq_along(temp))
data_train <- data[1:180,]
data_test <- data[181:200,]

# Fit the model using the dynamic() formula helper
mod <- mvgam(out ~
            dynamic(temp,
                    scale = FALSE,
                    k = 40),
            family = gaussian(),
            data = data_train,
            newdata = data_test,
            chains = 2)

```

```

# Inspect the model summary, forecast and time-varying coefficient distribution
summary(mod)
plot(mod, type = 'smooths')
fc <- forecast(mod, newdata = data_test)
plot(fc)

# Propagating the smooth term shows how the coefficient is expected to evolve
plot_mvgam_smooth(mod, smooth = 1, newdata = data)
abline(v = 180, lty = 'dashed', lwd = 2)
points(beta_temp, pch = 16)

# Example showing how to incorporate an offset; simulate some count data
# with different means per series
set.seed(100)
dat <- sim_mvgam(prop_trend = 0, mu = c(0, 2, 2),
                seasonality = 'hierarchical')

# Add offset terms to the training and testing data
dat$data_train$offset <- 0.5 * as.numeric(dat$data_train$series)
dat$data_test$offset <- 0.5 * as.numeric(dat$data_test$series)

# Fit a model that includes the offset in the linear predictor as well as
# hierarchical seasonal smooths
mod <- mvgam(formula = y ~ offset(offset) +
             s(series, bs = 're') +
             s(season, bs = 'cc') +
             s(season, by = series, m = 1, k = 5),
             data = dat$data_train,
             chains = 2)

# Inspect the model file to see the modification to the linear predictor
# (eta)
code(mod)

# Forecasts for the first two series will differ in magnitude
fc <- forecast(mod, newdata = dat$data_test)
layout(matrix(1:2, ncol = 2))
plot(fc, series = 1, ylim = c(0, 75))
plot(fc, series = 2, ylim = c(0, 75))
layout(1)

# Changing the offset for the testing data should lead to changes in
# the forecast
dat$data_test$offset <- dat$data_test$offset - 2
fc <- forecast(mod, newdata = dat$data_test)
plot(fc)

# Relative Risks can be computed by fixing the offset to the same value
# for each series
dat$data_test$offset <- rep(1, NROW(dat$data_test))
preds_rr <- predict(mod, type = 'link', newdata = dat$data_test,
                   summary = FALSE)

```

```

series1_inds <- which(dat$data_test$series == 'series_1')
series2_inds <- which(dat$data_test$series == 'series_2')

# Relative Risks are now more comparable among series
layout(matrix(1:2, ncol = 2))
plot(preds_rr[1, series1_inds], type = 'l', col = 'grey75',
      ylim = range(preds_rr),
      ylab = 'Series1 Relative Risk', xlab = 'Time')
for(i in 2:50){
  lines(preds_rr[i, series1_inds], col = 'grey75')
}

plot(preds_rr[1, series2_inds], type = 'l', col = 'darkred',
      ylim = range(preds_rr),
      ylab = 'Series2 Relative Risk', xlab = 'Time')
for(i in 2:50){
  lines(preds_rr[i, series2_inds], col = 'darkred')
}
layout(1)

# Example showcasing how cbind() is needed for Binomial observations
# Simulate two time series of Binomial trials
trials <- sample(c(20:25), 50, replace = TRUE)
x <- rnorm(50)
detprob1 <- plogis(-0.5 + 0.9*x)
detprob2 <- plogis(-0.1 -0.7*x)
dat <- rbind(data.frame(y = rbinom(n = 50, size = trials, prob = detprob1),
                        time = 1:50,
                        series = 'series1',
                        x = x,
                        ntrials = trials),
            data.frame(y = rbinom(n = 50, size = trials, prob = detprob2),
                        time = 1:50,
                        series = 'series2',
                        x = x,
                        ntrials = trials))
dat <- dplyr::mutate(dat, series = as.factor(series))
dat <- dplyr::arrange(dat, time, series)
plot_mvgam_series(data = dat, series = 'all')

# Fit a model using the binomial() family; must specify observations
# and number of trials in the cbind() wrapper
mod <- mvgam(cbind(y, ntrials) ~ series + s(x, by = series),
            family = binomial(),
            data = dat,
            chains = 2)
summary(mod)
pp_check(mod, type = "bars_grouped",
         group = "series", ndraws = 50)
pp_check(mod, type = "ecdf_overlay_grouped",
         group = "series", ndraws = 50)
conditional_effects(mod, type = 'link')

```

---

mvgam-class

*Fitted mvgam object description*


---

### Description

A fitted mvgam object returned by function `mvgam`. Run `methods(class = "mvgam")` to see an overview of available methods.

### Details

A mvgam object contains the following elements:

- `call` the original observation model formula
- `trend_call` If a `trend_formula` was supplied, the original trend model formula is returned. Otherwise NULL
- `family` character description of the observation distribution
- `trend_model` character description of the latent trend model
- `trend_map` data.frame describing the mapping of trend states to observations, if supplied in the original model. Otherwise NULL
- `drift` Logical specifying whether a drift term was used in the trend model
- `priors` If the model priors were updated from their defaults, the prior dataframe will be returned. Otherwise NULL
- `model_output` The MCMC object returned by the fitting engine. If the model was fitted using Stan, this will be an object of class `stanfit` (see [stanfit-class](#) for details). If JAGS was used as the backend, this will be an object of class `runjags` (see [runjags-class](#) for details)
- `model_file` The character string model file used to describe the model in either Stan or JAGS syntax
- `model_data` If `return_model_data` was set to TRUE when fitting the model, the list object containing all data objects needed to condition the model is returned. Each item in the list is described in detail at the top of the `model_file`. Otherwise NULL
- `inits` If `return_model_data` was set to TRUE when fitting the model, the initial value functions used to initialise the MCMC chains will be returned. Otherwise NULL
- `monitor_pars` The parameters that were monitored during MCMC sampling are returned as a character vector
- `sp_names` A character vector specifying the names for each smoothing parameter
- `mgcv_model` An object of class `gam` containing the mgcv version of the observation model. This object is used for generating the linear predictor matrix when making predictions for new data. The coefficients in this model object will contain the posterior median coefficients from the GAM linear predictor, but these are only used if generating plots of smooth functions that mvgam currently cannot handle (such as plots for three-dimensional smooths). This model therefore should not be used for inference. See [gamObject](#) for details

- `trend_mgcv_model` If a `trend_formula` was supplied, an object of class `gam` containing the `mgcv` version of the trend model. Otherwise `NULL`
- `ytimes` The matrix object used in model fitting for indexing which series and timepoints were observed in each row of the supplied data. Used internally by some downstream plotting and prediction functions
- `resids` A named list object containing posterior draws of Dunn-Smyth randomized quantile residuals
- `use_lv` Logical flag indicating whether latent dynamic factors were used in the model
- `n_lv` If `use_lv == TRUE`, the number of latent dynamic factors used in the model
- `upper_bounds` If bounds were supplied in the original model fit, they will be returned. Otherwise `NULL`
- `obs_data` The original data object (either a list or dataframe) supplied in model fitting.
- `test_data` If test data were supplied (as argument `newdata` in the original model), it will be returned. Otherwise `NULL`
- `fit_engine` Character describing the fit engine, either as `stan` or `jags`
- `backend` Character describing the backend used for modelling, either as `rstan`, `cmdstanr` or `rjags`
- `algorithm` Character describing the algorithm used for finding the posterior, either as `sampling`, `laplace`, `pathfinder`, `meanfield` or `fullrank`
- `max_treedepth` If the model was fitted using Stan, the value supplied for the maximum treedepth tuning parameter is returned (see [stan](#) for details). Otherwise `NULL`
- `adapt_delta` If the model was fitted using Stan, the value supplied for the `adapt_delta` tuning parameter is returned (see [stan](#) for details). Otherwise `NULL`

**Author(s)**

Nicholas J Clark

**See Also**

[mvgam](#)

---

mvgam\_diagnostics

*Extract diagnostic quantities of **mvgam** models*

---

**Description**

Extract quantities that can be used to diagnose sampling behavior of the algorithms applied by **Stan** at the back-end of **mvgam**.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
nuts_params(object, pars = NULL, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
log_posterior(object, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
rhat(x, pars = NULL, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
neff_ratio(object, pars = NULL, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
neff_ratio(object, pars = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object, x	A mvgam object.
pars	An optional character vector of parameter names. For nuts_params these will be NUTS sampler parameter names rather than model parameters. If pars is omitted all parameters are included.
...	Arguments passed to individual methods.

**Details**

For more details see [bayesplot-extractors](#).

**Value**

The exact form of the output depends on the method.

**Examples**

```
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
            trend_model = AR(),
            noncentred = TRUE,
            data = simdat$data_train,
            chains = 2)
np <- nuts_params(mod)
head(np)

# extract the number of divergence transitions
sum(subset(np, Parameter == "divergent__$Value"))

head(neff_ratio(mod))
```

---

`mvgam_draws`*Extract posterior draws from fitted mvgam objects*

---

**Description**

Extract posterior draws in conventional formats as data.frames, matrices, or arrays.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
as.data.frame(
  x,
  row.names = NULL,
  optional = TRUE,
  variable = "betas",
  use_alias = TRUE,
  regex = FALSE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
as.matrix(x, variable = "betas", regex = FALSE, use_alias = TRUE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
as.array(x, variable = "betas", regex = FALSE, use_alias = TRUE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
as_draws(
  x,
  variable = NULL,
  regex = FALSE,
  inc_warmup = FALSE,
  use_alias = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
as_draws_matrix(
  x,
  variable = NULL,
  regex = FALSE,
  inc_warmup = FALSE,
  use_alias = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
```

```

as_draws_df(
  x,
  variable = NULL,
  regex = FALSE,
  inc_warmup = FALSE,
  use_alias = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
as_draws_array(
  x,
  variable = NULL,
  regex = FALSE,
  inc_warmup = FALSE,
  use_alias = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
as_draws_list(
  x,
  variable = NULL,
  regex = FALSE,
  inc_warmup = FALSE,
  use_alias = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
as_draws_rvars(x, variable = NULL, regex = FALSE, inc_warmup = FALSE, ...)

```

### Arguments

x	list object of class mvgam
row.names	Ignored
optional	Ignored
variable	A character specifying which parameters to extract. Can either be one of the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <code>obs_params</code> (other parameters specific to the observation model, such as overdispersions for negative binomial models or observation error SD for gaussian / student-t models)</li> <li>• <code>betas</code> (beta coefficients from the GAM observation model linear predictor; default)</li> <li>• <code>smooth_params</code> (smoothing parameters from the GAM observation model)</li> <li>• <code>linpreds</code> (estimated linear predictors on whatever link scale was used in the model)</li> </ul>



- trend\_params (parameters governing the trend dynamics, such as AR parameters, trend SD parameters or Gaussian Process parameters)
- trend\_betas (beta coefficients from the GAM latent process model linear predictor; only available if a trend\_formula was supplied in the original model)
- trend\_smooth\_params (process model GAM smoothing parameters; only available if a trend\_formula was supplied in the original model)
- trend\_linpreds (process model linear predictors on the identity scale; only available if a trend\_formula was supplied in the original model)

OR can be a character vector providing the variables to extract

use_alias	Logical. If more informative names for parameters are available (i.e. for beta coefficients b or for smoothing parameters rho), replace the uninformative names with the more informative alias. Defaults to TRUE
regex	Logical. If not using one of the prespecified options for extractions, should variable be treated as a (vector of) regular expressions? Any variable in x matching at least one of the regular expressions will be selected. Defaults to FALSE.
...	Ignored
inc_warmup	Should warmup draws be included? Defaults to FALSE.

**Value**

A data.frame, matrix, or array containing the posterior draws.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
sim <- sim_mvgam(family = Gamma())
mod1 <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
             trend_model = 'AR1',
             data = sim$data_train,
             family = Gamma(),
             chains = 2,
             samples = 300)
beta_draws_df <- as.data.frame(mod1, variable = 'betas')
head(beta_draws_df)
str(beta_draws_df)

beta_draws_mat <- as.matrix(mod1, variable = 'betas')
head(beta_draws_mat)
str(beta_draws_mat)

shape_pars <- as.matrix(mod1, variable = 'shape', regex = TRUE)
head(shape_pars)
## End(Not run)
```

---

mvgam_families	<i>Supported mvgam families</i>
----------------	---------------------------------

---

## Description

Supported mvgam families

## Usage

```
tweedie(link = "log")
student_t(link = "identity")
betar(...)
nb(...)
nmix(link = "log")
```

## Arguments

link	a specification for the family link function. At present these cannot be changed
...	Arguments to be passed to the <b>mgcv</b> version of the associated functions

## Details

mvgam currently supports the following standard observation families:

- [gaussian](#) with identity link, for real-valued data
- [poisson](#) with log-link, for count data
- [Gamma](#) with log-link, for non-negative real-valued data
- [binomial](#) with logit-link, for count data when the number of trials is known (and must be supplied)

In addition, the following extended families from the **mgcv** and **brms** packages are supported:

- [betar](#) with logit-link, for proportional data on  $(0, 1)$
- [nb](#) with log-link, for count data
- [lognormal](#) with identity-link, for non-negative real-valued data
- [bernoulli](#) with logit-link, for binary data
- [beta\\_binomial](#) with logit-link, as for `binomial()` but allows for overdispersion

Finally, mvgam supports the three extended families described here:

- [tweedie](#) with log-link, for count data (power parameter  $p$  fixed at 1.5)
- `student_t()` (or [student](#)) with identity-link, for real-valued data

- `nmix` for count data with imperfect detection modeled via a State-Space N-Mixture model. The latent states are Poisson (with log link), capturing the 'true' latent abundance, while the observation process is Binomial to account for imperfect detection. The observation formula in these models is used to set up a linear predictor for the detection probability (with logit link). See the example below for a more detailed worked explanation of the `nmix()` family

Only `poisson()`, `nb()`, and `tweedie()` are available if using JAGS. All families, apart from `tweedie()`, are supported if using Stan.

Note that currently it is not possible to change the default link functions in `mvgam`, so any call to change these will be silently ignored

## Value

Objects of class `family`

## Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

## Examples

```
# Example showing how to set up N-mixture models
set.seed(999)
# Simulate observations for species 1, which shows a declining trend and 0.7 detection probability
data.frame(site = 1,
           # five replicates per year; six years
           replicate = rep(1:5, 6),
           time = sort(rep(1:6, 5)),
           species = 'sp_1',
           # true abundance declines nonlinearly
           truth = c(rep(28, 5),
                    rep(26, 5),
                    rep(23, 5),
                    rep(16, 5),
                    rep(14, 5),
                    rep(14, 5)),
           # observations are taken with detection prob = 0.7
           obs = c(rbinom(5, 28, 0.7),
                  rbinom(5, 26, 0.7),
                  rbinom(5, 23, 0.7),
                  rbinom(5, 15, 0.7),
                  rbinom(5, 14, 0.7),
                  rbinom(5, 14, 0.7))) %>%
# add 'series' information, which is an identifier of site, replicate and species
dplyr::mutate(series = paste0('site_', site,
                              '_', species,
                              '_rep_', replicate),
              time = as.numeric(time),
              # add a 'cap' variable that defines the maximum latent N to
              # marginalize over when estimating latent abundance; in other words
              # how large do we realistically think the true abundance could be?
              cap = 80) %>%
```

```

dplyr::select(- replicate) -> testdat

# Now add another species that has a different temporal trend and a smaller
# detection probability (0.45 for this species)
testdat = testdat %>%
  dplyr::bind_rows(data.frame(site = 1,
                              replicate = rep(1:5, 6),
                              time = sort(rep(1:6, 5)),
                              species = 'sp_2',
                              truth = c(rep(4, 5),
                                         rep(7, 5),
                                         rep(15, 5),
                                         rep(16, 5),
                                         rep(19, 5),
                                         rep(18, 5)),
                              obs = c(rbinom(5, 4, 0.45),
                                     rbinom(5, 7, 0.45),
                                     rbinom(5, 15, 0.45),
                                     rbinom(5, 16, 0.45),
                                     rbinom(5, 19, 0.45),
                                     rbinom(5, 18, 0.45))) %>%
    dplyr::mutate(series = paste0('site_', site,
                                  '_', species,
                                  '_rep_', replicate),
                 time = as.numeric(time),
                 cap = 50) %>%
  dplyr::select(-replicate))

# series identifiers
testdat$species <- factor(testdat$species,
                         levels = unique(testdat$species))
testdat$series <- factor(testdat$series,
                        levels = unique(testdat$series))

# The trend_map to state how replicates are structured
testdat %>%
  # each unique combination of site*species is a separate process
  dplyr::mutate(trend = as.numeric(factor(paste0(site, species)))) %>%
  dplyr::select(trend, series) %>%
  dplyr::distinct() -> trend_map
trend_map

# Fit a model
mod <- mvgam(
  # the observation formula sets up linear predictors for
  # detection probability on the logit scale
  formula = obs ~ species - 1,

  # the trend_formula sets up the linear predictors for
  # the latent abundance processes on the log scale
  trend_formula = ~ s(time, by = trend, k = 4) + species,

  # the trend_map takes care of the mapping

```

```
trend_map = trend_map,

# nmix() family and data
family = nmix(),
data = testdat,

# priors can be set in the usual way
priors = c(prior(std_normal(), class = b),
           prior(normal(1, 1.5), class = Intercept_trend)),
chains = 2)

# The usual diagnostics
summary(mod)

# Plotting conditional effects
library(ggplot2); library(marginaleffects)
plot_predictions(mod, condition = 'species',
                 type = 'detection') +
  ylab('Pr(detection)') +
  ylim(c(0, 1)) +
  theme_classic() +
  theme(legend.position = 'none')

# Example showcasing how cbind() is needed for Binomial observations
# Simulate two time series of Binomial trials
trials <- sample(c(20:25), 50, replace = TRUE)
x <- rnorm(50)
detprob1 <- plogis(-0.5 + 0.9*x)
detprob2 <- plogis(-0.1 -0.7*x)
dat <- rbind(data.frame(y = rbinom(n = 50, size = trials, prob = detprob1),
                       time = 1:50,
                       series = 'series1',
                       x = x,
                       ntrials = trials),
            data.frame(y = rbinom(n = 50, size = trials, prob = detprob2),
                       time = 1:50,
                       series = 'series2',
                       x = x,
                       ntrials = trials))
dat <- dplyr::mutate(dat, series = as.factor(series))
dat <- dplyr::arrange(dat, time, series)

# Fit a model using the binomial() family; must specify observations
# and number of trials in the cbind() wrapper
mod <- mvgam(cbind(y, ntrials) ~ series + s(x, by = series),
            family = binomial(),
            data = dat)
summary(mod)
```

---

mvgam\_forecast-class    mvgam\_forecast *object description*

---

## Description

A `mvgam_forecast` object returned by function `hindcast` or `forecast`. Run `methods(class = "mvgam_forecast")` to see an overview of available methods.

## Details

A `mvgam_forecast` object contains the following elements:

- `call` the original observation model formula
- `trend_call` If a `trend_formula` was supplied, the original trend model formula is returned. Otherwise `NULL`
- `family` character description of the observation distribution
- `family_pars` list containing draws of family-specific parameters (i.e. shape, scale or overdispersion parameters). Only returned if `type = link`. Otherwise `NULL`
- `trend_model` character description of the latent trend model
- `drift` Logical specifying whether a drift term was used in the trend model
- `use_lv` Logical flag indicating whether latent dynamic factors were used in the model
- `fit_engine` Character describing the fit engine, either as `stan` or `jags`
- `type` The type of predictions included (either `link`, `response` or `trend`)
- `series_names` Names of the time series, taken from `levels(data$series)` in the original model fit
- `train_observations` A list of training observation vectors of length `n_series`
- `train_times` A vector of the unique training times
- `test_observations` If the `forecast` function was used, a list of test observation vectors of length `n_series`. Otherwise `NULL`
- `test_times` If the `forecast` function was used, a vector of the unique validation (testing) times. Otherwise `NULL`
- `hindcasts` A list of posterior hindcast distributions of length `n_series`.
- `forecasts` If the `forecast` function was used, a list of posterior forecast distributions of length `n_series`. Otherwise `NULL`

## Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

## See Also

[mvgam](#), [hindcast.mvgam](#), [forecast.mvgam](#)

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mvgam_formulae	<i>Details of formula specifications in mvgam</i>
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---

**Description**

Details of formula specifications in mvgam

**Details**

[mvgam](#) will accept an observation model formula and an optional process model formula (via the argument `trend_formula`). Neither of these formulae can be specified as lists, contrary to the accepted behaviour in some `mgcv` or `brms` models.

Note that it is possible to supply an empty formula where there are no predictors or intercepts in the observation model (i.e.  $y \sim \emptyset$  or  $y \sim -1$ ). In this case, an intercept-only observation model will be set up but the intercept coefficient will be fixed at zero. This can be handy if you wish to fit pure State-Space models where the variation in the dynamic trend controls the average expectation, and/or where intercepts are non-identifiable.

The formulae supplied to [mvgam](#) are exactly like those supplied to [glm](#) except that smooth terms, [s](#), [te](#), [ti](#) and [t2](#), time-varying effects using [dynamic](#), monotonically increasing (using  $s(x, bs = 'moi')$ ) or decreasing splines (using  $s(x, bs = 'mod')$ ); see [smooth.construct.moi.smooth.spec](#) for details), as well as Gaussian Process functions using [gp](#), can be added to the right hand side (and `.` is not supported in mvgam formulae).

Further details on specifying different kinds of smooth functions, and how to control their behaviours by modifying their potential complexities and / or how the penalties behave, can be found in the extensive documentation for the `mgcv` package.

**Author(s)**

Nicholas J Clark

**See Also**

[mvgam](#), [formula.gam](#), [gam.models](#), [jagam](#), [gam](#), [s](#), [formula](#)

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mvgam_marginaleffects	<i>Helper functions for mvgam marginaleffects calculations</i>
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---

**Description**

Helper functions for mvgam marginaleffects calculations

Functions needed for working with marginaleffects

Functions needed for getting data / objects with insight

**Usage**

```

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
get_coef(model, trend_effects = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
set_coef(model, coefs, trend_effects = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
get_vcov(model, vcov = NULL, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
get_predict(model, newdata, type = "response", process_error = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
get_data(x, source = "environment", verbose = TRUE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam_predit'
get_data(x, source = "environment", verbose = TRUE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
find_predictors(
  x,
  effects = c("fixed", "random", "all"),
  component = c("all", "conditional", "zi", "zero_inflated", "dispersion", "instruments",
    "correlation", "smooth_terms"),
  flatten = FALSE,
  verbose = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam_predit'
find_predictors(
  x,
  effects = c("fixed", "random", "all"),
  component = c("all", "conditional", "zi", "zero_inflated", "dispersion", "instruments",
    "correlation", "smooth_terms"),
  flatten = FALSE,
  verbose = TRUE,
  ...
)

```

**Arguments**

model	Model object
trend_effects	logical, extract from the process model component (only applicable if a trend_formula was specified in the model)
...	Additional arguments are passed to the predict() method supplied by the modeling package. These arguments are particularly useful for mixed-effects or



bayesian models (see the online vignettes on the `marginaleffects` website). Available arguments can vary from model to model, depending on the range of supported arguments by each modeling package. See the "Model-Specific Arguments" section of the `?slopes` documentation for a non-exhaustive list of available arguments.

<code>coefs</code>	vector of coefficients to insert in the model object
<code>vcov</code>	Type of uncertainty estimates to report (e.g., for robust standard errors). Acceptable values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FALSE: Do not compute standard errors. This can speed up computation considerably.</li> <li>• TRUE: Unit-level standard errors using the default <code>vcov(model)</code> variance-covariance matrix.</li> <li>• String which indicates the kind of uncertainty estimates to return. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Heteroskedasticity-consistent: "HC", "HC0", "HC1", "HC2", "HC3", "HC4", "HC4m", "HC5". See <code>?sandwich::vcovHC</code></li> <li>– Heteroskedasticity and autocorrelation consistent: "HAC"</li> <li>– Mixed-Models degrees of freedom: "satterthwaite", "kenward-roger"</li> <li>– Other: "NeweyWest", "KernHAC", "OPG". See the <code>sandwich</code> package documentation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One-sided formula which indicates the name of cluster variables (e.g., <code>~unit_id</code>). This formula is passed to the <code>cluster</code> argument of the <code>sandwich::vcovCL</code> function.</li> <li>• Square covariance matrix</li> <li>• Function which returns a covariance matrix (e.g., <code>stats::vcov(model)</code>)</li> </ul>
<code>newdata</code>	Grid of predictor values at which we evaluate the slopes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warning: Please avoid modifying your dataset between fitting the model and calling a <code>marginaleffects</code> function. This can sometimes lead to unexpected results.</li> <li>• NULL (default): Unit-level slopes for each observed value in the dataset (empirical distribution). The dataset is retrieved using <code>insight::get_data()</code>, which tries to extract data from the environment. This may produce unexpected results if the original data frame has been altered since fitting the model.</li> <li>• <code>datagrid()</code> call to specify a custom grid of regressors. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <code>newdata = datagrid(cyl = c(4, 6))</code>: <code>cyl</code> variable equal to 4 and 6 and other regressors fixed at their means or modes.</li> <li>– See the Examples section and the <code>datagrid()</code> documentation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• string: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– "mean": Marginal Effects at the Mean. Slopes when each predictor is held at its mean or mode.</li> <li>– "median": Marginal Effects at the Median. Slopes when each predictor is held at its median or mode.</li> <li>– "marginalmeans": Marginal Effects at Marginal Means. See Details section below.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- "tukey": Marginal Effects at Tukey's 5 numbers.
- "grid": Marginal Effects on a grid of representative numbers (Tukey's 5 numbers and unique values of categorical predictors).

type	string indicates the type (scale) of the predictions used to compute contrasts or slopes. This can differ based on the model type, but will typically be a string such as: "response", "link", "probs", or "zero". When an unsupported string is entered, the model-specific list of acceptable values is returned in an error message. When type is NULL, the first entry in the error message is used by default.
process_error	logical. If TRUE, uncertainty in the latent process (or trend) model is incorporated in predictions
x	A fitted model.
source	String, indicating from where data should be recovered. If source = "environment" (default), data is recovered from the environment (e.g. if the data is in the workspace). This option is usually the fastest way of getting data and ensures that the original variables used for model fitting are returned. Note that always the <i>current</i> data is recovered from the environment. Hence, if the data was modified <i>after</i> model fitting (e.g., variables were recoded or rows filtered), the returned data may no longer equal the model data. If source = "frame" (or "mf"), the data is taken from the model frame. Any transformed variables are back-transformed, if possible. This option returns the data even if it is not available in the environment, however, in certain edge cases back-transforming to the original data may fail. If source = "environment" fails to recover the data, it tries to extract the data from the model frame; if source = "frame" and data cannot be extracted from the model frame, data will be recovered from the environment. Both ways only returns observations that have no missing data in the variables used for model fitting.
verbose	Toggle messages and warnings.
effects	Should model data for fixed effects ("fixed"), random effects ("random") or both ("all") be returned? Only applies to mixed or gee models.
component	Should all predictor variables, predictor variables for the conditional model, the zero-inflated part of the model, the dispersion term or the instrumental variables be returned? Applies to models with zero-inflated and/or dispersion formula, or to models with instrumental variable (so called fixed-effects regressions). May be abbreviated. Note that the <i>conditional</i> component is also called <i>count</i> or <i>mean</i> component, depending on the model.
flatten	Logical, if TRUE, the values are returned as character vector, not as list. Duplicated values are removed.

### Value

Objects suitable for internal 'marginaleffects' functions to proceed. See [marginaleffects::get\\_coef\(\)](#), [marginaleffects::set\\_coef\(\)](#), [marginaleffects::get\\_vcov\(\)](#), [marginaleffects::get\\_predict\(\)](#), [insight::get\\_data\(\)](#) and [insight::find\\_predictors\(\)](#) for details

**Author(s)**

Nicholas J Clark

mvgam\_trends

*Supported mvgam trend models***Description**

Supported mvgam trend models

**Details**

mvgam currently supports the following dynamic trend models:

- None (no latent trend component; i.e. the GAM component is all that contributes to the linear predictor, and the observation process is the only source of error; similarly to what is estimated by [gam](#))
- RW()
- AR(p = 1, 2, or 3)
- CAR(p = 1)(continuous time autoregressive trends; only available in Stan)
- VAR()(only available in Stan)
- PW() (piecewise linear or logistic trends; only available in Stan)
- GP() (Gaussian Process with squared exponential kernel; only available in Stan)

For most dynamic trend types available in mvgam (see argument `trend_model`), time should be measured in discrete, regularly spaced intervals (i.e. `c(1, 2, 3, ...)`). However you can use irregularly spaced intervals if using `trend_model = CAR(1)`, though note that any temporal intervals that are exactly 0 will be adjusted to a very small number ( $1e-12$ ) to prevent sampling errors. For all trend types apart from GP(), PW(), and CAR(), moving average and/or correlated process error terms can also be estimated (for example, `RW(cor = TRUE)` will set up a multivariate Random Walk if data contains >1 series). Character strings can also be supplied instead of the various trend functions. The full list of possible models that are currently supported is:

- 'RW'
- 'RWMA'
- 'RWcor'
- 'RWMAcor'
- 'AR1'
- 'AR1MA'
- 'AR1cor'
- 'AR1MAcor'
- 'AR2'
- 'AR2MA'

- 'AR2cor'
- 'AR2MAcor'
- 'AR3'
- 'AR3MA'
- 'AR3cor'
- 'AR3MAcor'
- 'CAR1'
- 'VAR'
- 'VARcor'
- 'VAR1' (same as 'VAR')
- 'VAR1cor' (same as 'VARcor')
- 'VARMA'
- 'VARMAcor'
- 'VARMA1,1cor'
- 'PWlinear'
- 'PWlogistic'
- 'GP'
- 'None'

Note that only RW, AR1, AR2 and AR3 are available if using JAGS. All trend models are supported if using Stan. Dynamic factor models can be used in which the latent factors evolve as either RW, AR1-3, VAR or GP. For VAR models (i.e. VAR and VARcor models), users can either fix the trend error covariances to be  $\emptyset$  (using VAR) or estimate them and potentially allow for contemporaneously correlated errors using VARcor. For all VAR models, stationarity of the latent process is enforced through the prior using the parameterisation given by Heaps (2022). Stationarity is not enforced when using AR1, AR2 or AR3 models, though this can be changed by the user by specifying lower and upper bounds on autoregressive parameters using functionality in [get\\_mvgam\\_priors](#) and the `priors` argument in [mvgam](#). Piecewise trends follow the formulation in the popular prophet package produced by Facebook, where users can allow for changepoints to control the potential flexibility of the trend. See Taylor and Letham (2018) for details

## References

- Sarah E. Heaps (2022) Enforcing stationarity through the prior in Vector Autoregressions. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*. 32:1, 1-10.
- Sean J. Taylor and Benjamin Letham (2018) Forecasting at scale. *The American Statistician* 72.1, 37-45.

## See Also

[RW](#), [AR](#), [CAR](#), [VAR](#), [PW](#), [GP](#)

---

pairs.mvgam	<i>Create a matrix of output plots from a mvgam object</i>
-------------	--

---

## Description

A [pairs](#) method that is customized for MCMC output.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
pairs(x, variable = NULL, regex = FALSE, use_alias = TRUE, ...)
```

## Arguments

x	An object of class <code>mvgam</code>
variable	Names of the variables (parameters) to plot, as given by a character vector or a regular expression (if <code>regex = TRUE</code> ). By default, a hopefully not too large selection of variables is plotted.
regex	Logical; Indicates whether <code>variable</code> should be treated as regular expressions. Defaults to <code>FALSE</code> .
use_alias	Logical. If more informative names for parameters are available (i.e. for beta coefficients <code>b</code> or for smoothing parameters <code>rho</code> ), replace the uninformative names with the more informative alias. Defaults to <code>TRUE</code>
...	Further arguments to be passed to <a href="#">mcmc_pairs</a> .

## Details

For a detailed description see [mcmc\\_pairs](#).

## Value

Plottable objects whose classes depend on the arguments supplied. See [mcmc\\_pairs](#) for details.

## Examples

```
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
            trend_model = AR(),
            noncentred = TRUE,
            data = simdat$data_train,
            chains = 2)

pairs(mod)
pairs(mod, variable = c('ar1', 'sigma'), regex = TRUE)
```

plot.mvgam

*Default mvgam plots***Description**

This function takes a fitted mvgam object and produces plots of smooth functions, forecasts, trends and uncertainty components

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
plot(
  x,
  type = "residuals",
  series = 1,
  residuals = FALSE,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  trend_effects = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

x	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
type	character specifying which type of plot to return. Options are: series, residuals, smooths, re (random effect smooths), pterms (parametric effects), forecast, trend, uncertainty, factors
series	integer specifying which series in the set is to be plotted. This is ignored if type == 're'
residuals	logical. If TRUE and type = 'smooths', posterior quantiles of partial residuals are added to plots of 1-D smooths as a series of ribbon rectangles. Partial residuals for a smooth term are the median Dunn-Smyth residuals that would be obtained by dropping the term concerned from the model, while leaving all other estimates fixed (i.e. the estimates for the term plus the original median Dunn-Smyth residuals). Note that because mvgam works with Dunn-Smyth residuals and not working residuals, which are used by mgcv, the magnitudes of partial residuals will be different to what you would expect from <a href="#">plot.gam</a> . Interpretation is similar though, as these partial residuals should be evenly scattered around the smooth function if the function is well estimated
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing at least 'series' and 'time' in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of the original formula. This argument is optional when plotting out of sample forecast period observations (when type = forecast) and required when plotting uncertainty components (type = uncertainty).

data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
trend_effects	logical. If TRUE and a trend_formula was used in model fitting, terms from the trend (i.e. process) model will be plotted
...	Additional arguments for each individual plotting function.

### Details

These plots are useful for getting an overview of the fitted model and its estimated random effects or smooth functions, but the individual plotting functions and the functions from the `marginaleffects` package offer far more more customisation.

### Value

A base R plot or set of plots

### Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

### See Also

[plot\\_mvgam\\_resids](#), [plot\\_mvgam\\_smooth](#), [plot\\_mvgam\\_fc](#), [plot\\_mvgam\\_trend](#), [plot\\_mvgam\\_uncertainty](#), [plot\\_mvgam\\_factors](#), [plot\\_mvgam\\_randomeffects](#), [plot\\_predictions](#), [plot\\_slopes](#)

### Examples

```
# Simulate some time series
dat <- sim_mvgam(T = 80, n_series = 3)

# Fit a basic model
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc') + s(series, bs = 're'),
             data = dat$data_train,
             trend_model = RW(),
             chains = 2)

# Plot predictions and residuals for each series
plot(mod, type = 'forecast', series = 1)
plot(mod, type = 'forecast', series = 2)
plot(mod, type = 'forecast', series = 3)
plot(mod, type = 'residuals', series = 1)
plot(mod, type = 'residuals', series = 2)
plot(mod, type = 'residuals', series = 3)

# Plot model effects
plot(mod, type = 'smooths')
plot(mod, type = 're')

# More flexible plots with 'marginaleffects' utilities
library(marginaleffects)
plot_predictions(mod, condition = 'season', type = 'link')
```

```

plot_predictions(mod,
                 condition = c('season', 'series', 'series'),
                 type = 'link')
plot_predictions(mod, condition = 'series', type = 'link')

# When using a State-Space model with predictors on the process
# model, set trend_effects = TRUE to visualise process effects
mod <- mvgam(y ~ -1,
            trend_formula = ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
            data = dat$data_train,
            trend_model = RW(),
            chains = 2)
plot(mod, type = 'smooths', trend_effects = TRUE)

# But margineffects functions work without any modification
plot_predictions(mod, condition = 'season', type = 'link')

```

---

plot.mvgam\_lfo

*Plot Pareto-k and ELPD values from a leave-future-out object*


---

## Description

This function takes an object of class `mvgam_lfo` and creates several informative diagnostic plots

## Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'mvgam_lfo'
plot(x, ...)

```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>mvgam_lfo</code>
<code>...</code>	Ignored

## Value

A base R plot of Pareto-k and ELPD values over the evaluation timepoints. For the Pareto-k plot, a dashed red line indicates the specified threshold chosen for triggering model refits. For the ELPD plot, a dashed red line indicates the bottom 10% quantile of ELPD values. Points below this threshold may represent outliers that were more difficult to forecast



---

plot\_mvgam\_factors      *Latent factor summaries for a fitted mvgam object*

---

### Description

This function takes a fitted mvgam object and returns plots and summary statistics for the latent dynamic factors

### Usage

```
plot_mvgam_factors(object, plot = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
plot	logical specifying whether factors should be plotted

### Details

If the model in object was estimated using dynamic factors, it is possible that not all factors contributed to the estimated trends. This is due to the regularisation penalty that acts independently on each factor's Gaussian precision, which will squeeze un-needed factors to a white noise process (effectively dropping that factor from the model). In this function, each factor is tested against a null hypothesis of white noise by calculating the sum of the factor's 2nd derivatives. A factor that has a larger contribution will have a larger sum due to the weaker penalty on the factor's precision. If plot == TRUE, the factors are also plotted.

### Value

A dataframe of factor contributions and, optionally, a series of base R plots

### Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

### Examples

```
simdat <- sim_mvgam()
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc',
                  k = 6),
            trend_model = AR(),
            use_lv = TRUE,
            n_lv = 2,
            data = simdat$data_train,
            chains = 2)
plot_mvgam_factors(mod)
```

---

plot\_mvgam\_forecasts *Plot mvgam posterior predictions for a specified series*

---

### Description

Plot mvgam posterior predictions for a specified series

### Usage

```
plot_mvgam_fc(
  object,
  series = 1,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  realisations = FALSE,
  n_realisations = 15,
  hide_xlabels = FALSE,
  xlab,
  ylab,
  ylim,
  n_cores = 1,
  return_forecasts = FALSE,
  return_score = FALSE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam_forecast'
plot(
  x,
  series = 1,
  realisations = FALSE,
  n_realisations = 15,
  hide_xlabels = FALSE,
  xlab,
  ylab,
  ylim,
  return_score = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
series	integer specifying which series in the set is to be plotted
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing at least 'series' and 'time' in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of the original formula. If included, the covariate information in newdata will be used to

generate forecasts from the fitted model equations. If this same newdata was originally included in the call to `mvgam`, then forecasts have already been produced by the generative model and these will simply be extracted and plotted. However if no newdata was supplied to the original model call, an assumption is made that the newdata supplied here comes sequentially after the data supplied as data in the original model (i.e. we assume there is no time gap between the last observation of series 1 in data and the first observation for series 1 in newdata). If newdata contains observations in column y, these observations will be used to compute a Discrete Rank Probability Score for the forecast distribution

<code>data_test</code>	Deprecated. Still works in place of <code>newdata</code> but users are recommended to use <code>newdata</code> instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
<code>realisations</code>	logical. If TRUE, forecast realisations are shown as a spaghetti plot, making it easier to visualise the diversity of possible forecasts. If FALSE, the default, empirical quantiles of the forecast distribution are shown
<code>n_realisations</code>	integer specifying the number of posterior realisations to plot, if <code>realisations = TRUE</code> . Ignored otherwise
<code>hide_xlabels</code>	logical. If TRUE, no xlabels are printed to allow the user to add custom labels using axis from base R
<code>xlab</code>	label for x axis.
<code>ylab</code>	label for y axis.
<code>ylim</code>	Optional vector of y-axis limits (min, max)
<code>n_cores</code>	integer specifying number of cores for generating forecasts in parallel
<code>return_forecasts</code>	logical. If TRUE, the function will plot the forecast as well as returning the forecast object (as a matrix of dimension <code>n_samples</code> x <code>horizon</code> )
<code>return_score</code>	logical. If TRUE and out of sample test data is provided as <code>newdata</code> , a probabilistic score will be calculated and returned. The score used will depend on the observation family from the fitted model. Discrete families ( <code>poisson</code> , <code>negative binomial</code> , <code>tweedie</code> ) use the Discrete Rank Probability Score. Other families use the Continuous Rank Probability Score. The value returned is the sum of all scores within the out of sample forecast horizon
<code>...</code>	further <code>par</code> graphical parameters.
<code>x</code>	Object of class <code>mvgam_forecast</code>

## Details

`plot_mvgam_fc` draws posterior predictions from an object of class `mvgam` and calculates posterior empirical quantiles.

`plot.mvgam_forecast` takes an object of class `mvgam_forecast`, in which forecasts have already been computed, and plots the resulting forecast distribution.

If `realisations = FALSE`, these posterior quantiles are plotted along with the true observed data that was used to train the model. Otherwise, a spaghetti plot is returned to show possible forecast paths.

**Value**

A base R graphics plot and an optional list containing the forecast distribution and the out of sample probabilistic forecast score

---

plot_mvgam_pterms	<i>Plot mvgam parametric term partial effects</i>
-------------------	---

---

**Description**

This function plots posterior empirical quantiles for partial effects of parametric terms

**Usage**

```
plot_mvgam_pterms(object, trend_effects = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
trend_effects	logical. If TRUE and a trend_formula was used in model fitting, terms from the trend (i.e. process) model will be plotted

**Details**

Posterior empirical quantiles of each parametric term's partial effect estimates (on the link scale) are calculated and visualised as ribbon plots. These effects can be interpreted as the partial effect that a parametric term contributes when all other terms in the model have been set to 0

**Value**

A base R graphics plot

---

plot_mvgam_randomeffects	<i>Plot mvgam random effect terms</i>
--------------------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

This function plots posterior empirical quantiles for random effect smooths (bs = re)

**Usage**

```
plot_mvgam_randomeffects(object, trend_effects = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
trend_effects	logical. If TRUE and a trend_formula was used in model fitting, terms from the trend (i.e. process) model will be plotted

**Details**

Posterior empirical quantiles of random effect coefficient estimates (on the link scale) are calculated and visualised as ribbon plots. Labels for coefficients are taken from the levels of the original factor variable that was used to specify the smooth in the model's formula

**Value**

A base R graphics plot

---

plot_mvgam_resids	<i>Residual diagnostics for a fitted mvgam object</i>
-------------------	---

---

**Description**

This function takes a fitted mvgam object and returns various residual diagnostic plots

**Usage**

```
plot_mvgam_resids(object, series = 1, newdata, data_test)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
series	integer specifying which series in the set is to be plotted
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing at least 'series', 'y', and 'time' in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If included, the covariate information in newdata will be used to generate forecasts from the fitted model equations. If this same newdata was originally included in the call to mvgam, then forecasts have already been produced by the generative model and these will simply be extracted and used to calculate residuals. However if no newdata was supplied to the original model call, an assumption is made that the newdata supplied here comes sequentially after the data supplied as data in the original model (i.e. we assume there is no time gap between the last observation of series 1 in data_train and the first observation for series 1 in newdata).
data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows

**Details**

A total of four base R plots are generated to examine Dunn-Smyth residuals for the specified series. Plots include a residuals vs fitted values plot, a Q-Q plot, and two plots to check for any remaining temporal autocorrelation in the residuals. Note, all plots use posterior medians of fitted values / residuals, so uncertainty is not represented.

**Value**

A series of base R plots

**Author(s)**

Nicholas J Clark

---

plot\_mvgam\_series      *Plot observed time series used for mvgam modelling*

---

**Description**

This function takes either a fitted mvgam object or a data\_train object and produces plots of observed time series, ACF, CDF and histograms for exploratory data analysis

**Usage**

```
plot_mvgam_series(
  object,
  data,
  data_train,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  y = "y",
  lines = TRUE,
  series = 1,
  n_bins,
  log_scale = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

object	Optional list object returned from mvgam. Either object or data_train must be supplied.
data	Optional dataframe or list of training data containing at least 'series' and 'time'. Use this argument if training data have been gathered in the correct format for mvgam modelling but no model has yet been fitted.
data_train	Deprecated. Still works in place of data but users are recommended to use data instead for more seamless integration into R workflows

newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing at least 'series' and 'time' for the forecast horizon, in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If included, the observed values in the test data are compared to the model's forecast distribution for exploring biases in model predictions.
data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
y	Character. What is the name of the outcome variable in the supplied data? Defaults to 'y'
lines	Logical. If TRUE, line plots are used for visualising time series. If FALSE, points are used.
series	Either a integer specifying which series in the set is to be plotted or the string 'all', which plots all series available in the supplied data
n_bins	integer specifying the number of bins to use for binning observed values when plotting a the histogram. Default is to use the number of bins returned by a call to hist in base R
log_scale	logical. If series == 'all', this flag is used to control whether the time series plot is shown on the log scale (using $\log(Y + 1)$ ). This can be useful when visualising many series that may have different observed ranges. Default is FALSE

### Value

A set of base R graphics plots. If series is an integer, the plots will show observed time series, autocorrelation and cumulative distribution functions, and a histogram for the series. If series == 'all', a set of observed time series plots is returned in which all series are shown on each plot but only a single focal series is highlighted, with all remaining series shown as faint gray lines.

### Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

### Examples

```
# Simulate and plot series with observations bounded at 0 and 1 (Beta responses)
sim_data <- sim_mvgam(family = betar(),
  trend_model = RW(), prop_trend = 0.6)
plot_mvgam_series(data = sim_data$data_train, series = 'all')
plot_mvgam_series(data = sim_data$data_train,
  newdata = sim_data$data_test, series = 1)

# Now simulate series with overdispersed discrete observations
sim_data <- sim_mvgam(family = nb(), trend_model = RW(),
  prop_trend = 0.6, phi = 10)
plot_mvgam_series(data = sim_data$data_train, series = 'all')
```

---

plot\_mvgam\_smooth      *Plot mvgam smooth terms*

---

### Description

This function plots posterior empirical quantiles for a series-specific smooth term

### Usage

```
plot_mvgam_smooth(
  object,
  trend_effects = FALSE,
  series = 1,
  smooth,
  residuals = FALSE,
  n_resid_bins = 25,
  realisations = FALSE,
  n_realisations = 15,
  derivatives = FALSE,
  newdata
)
```

### Arguments

object	list object returned from <code>mvgam</code> . See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
trend_effects	logical. If TRUE and a <code>trend_formula</code> was used in model fitting, terms from the trend (i.e. process) model will be plotted
series	integer specifying which series in the set is to be plotted
smooth	either a character or integer specifying which smooth term to be plotted
residuals	logical. If TRUE then posterior quantiles of partial residuals are added to plots of 1-D smooths as a series of ribbon rectangles. Partial residuals for a smooth term are the median Dunn-Smyth residuals that would be obtained by dropping the term concerned from the model, while leaving all other estimates fixed (i.e. the estimates for the term plus the original median Dunn-Smyth residuals). Note that because <code>mvgam</code> works with Dunn-Smyth residuals and not working residuals, which are used by <code>mgcv</code> , the magnitudes of partial residuals will be different to what you would expect from <a href="#">plot.gam</a> . Interpretation is similar though, as these partial residuals should be evenly scattered around the smooth function if the function is well estimated
n_resid_bins	integer specifying the number of bins group the covariate into when plotting partial residuals. Setting this argument too high can make for messy plots that are difficult to interpret, while setting it too low will likely mask some potentially useful patterns in the partial residuals. Default is 25
realisations	logical. If TRUE, posterior realisations are shown as a spaghetti plot, making it easier to visualise the diversity of possible functions. If FALSE, the default, empirical quantiles of the posterior distribution are shown



n_realisations	integer specifying the number of posterior realisations to plot, if realisations = TRUE. Ignored otherwise
derivatives	logical. If TRUE, an additional plot will be returned to show the estimated 1st derivative for the specified smooth (Note, this only works for univariate smooths)
newdata	Optional dataframe for predicting the smooth, containing at least 'series' in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of the original model's formula. Note that this currently is only supported for plotting univariate smooths

### Details

Smooth functions are shown as empirical quantiles (or spaghetti plots) of posterior partial expectations across a sequence of 500 values between the variable's min and max, while zeroing out effects of all other variables. At present, only univariate and bivariate smooth plots are allowed, though note that bivariate smooths rely on default behaviour from [plot.gam](#). For more nuanced visualisation, supply newdata just as you would when predicting from a [gam](#) model

### Value

A base R graphics plot

### See Also

[plot.gam](#)

---

plot_mvgam_trend	<i>Plot mvgam latent trend for a specified series</i>
------------------	---

---

### Description

Plot mvgam latent trend for a specified series

### Usage

```
plot_mvgam_trend(
  object,
  series = 1,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  realisations = FALSE,
  n_realisations = 15,
  n_cores = 1,
  derivatives = FALSE,
  hide_xlabels = FALSE,
  xlab,
  ylab,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <code>mvgam()</code>
series	integer specifying which series in the set is to be plotted
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing at least 'series' and 'time' in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of the original formula.
data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
realisations	logical. If TRUE, posterior trend realisations are shown as a spaghetti plot, making it easier to visualise the diversity of possible trend paths. If FALSE, the default, empirical quantiles of the posterior distribution are shown
n_realisations	integer specifying the number of posterior realisations to plot, if realisations = TRUE. Ignored otherwise
n_cores	integer specifying number of cores for generating trend forecasts in parallel
derivatives	logical. If TRUE, an additional plot will be returned to show the estimated 1st derivative for the estimated trend
hide_xlabel	logical. If TRUE, no xlabels are printed to allow the user to add custom labels using axis from base R. Ignored if derivatives = TRUE
xlab	label for x axis.
ylab	label for y axis.
...	further <code>par</code> graphical parameters.

**Value**

A base R graphics plot

**Examples**

```
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 3, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
            trend_model = AR(),
            noncentred = TRUE,
            data = simdat$data_train,
            chains = 2)

# Plot estimated trends for some series
plot_mvgam_trend(mod)
plot_mvgam_trend(mod, series = 2)

# Extrapolate trends forward in time and plot on response scale
plot_mvgam_trend(mod, newdata = simdat$data_test)
plot_mvgam_trend(mod, newdata = simdat$data_test, series = 2)

# But it is recommended to compute extrapolations for all series
# first and then plot
trend_fc <- forecast(mod, newdata = simdat$data_test)
```

```
plot(trend_fc, series = 1)
plot(trend_fc, series = 2)
```

---

plot\_mvgam\_uncertainty

*Plot mvgam forecast uncertainty contributions for a specified series*

---

## Description

Plot mvgam forecast uncertainty contributions for a specified series

## Usage

```
plot_mvgam_uncertainty(
  object,
  series = 1,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  legend_position = "topleft",
  hide_xlabels = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
series	integer specifying which series in the set is to be plotted
newdata	A dataframe or list containing at least 'series' and 'time' for the forecast horizon, in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of formula
data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
legend_position	The location may also be specified by setting x to a single keyword from the list: "none", "bottomright", "bottom", "bottomleft", "left", "topleft", "top", "topright", "right" and "center". This places the legend on the inside of the plot frame at the given location (if it is not "none").
hide_xlabels	logical. If TRUE, no xlabels are printed to allow the user to add custom labels using axis from base R

## Value

A base R graphics plot

---

portal_data	<i>Portal Project rodent capture survey data</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

A dataset containing timeseries of total captures (across all control plots) for select rodent species from the Portal Project

**Usage**

```
portal_data
```

**Format**

A dataframe containing the following fields:

**moon** time of sampling in lunar cycles  
**DM** Total captures of species *Dipodomys merriami*  
**DO** Total captures of species *Dipodomys ordii*  
**PP** Total captures of species *Chaetodipus penicillatus*  
**OT** Total captures of species *Onychomys torridus*  
**year** Sampling year  
**month** Sampling month  
**mintemp** Monthly mean minimum temperature  
**precipitation** Monthly mean precipitation  
**ndvi** Monthly mean Normalised Difference Vegetation Index

**Source**

<https://github.com/weecology/PortalData/blob/main/SiteandMethods/Methods.md>

---

posterior_epred.mvgam	<i>Draws from the Expected Value of the Posterior Predictive Distribution</i>
-----------------------	---

---

**Description**

Compute posterior draws of the expected value of the posterior predictive distribution (i.e. the conditional expectation). Can be performed for the data used to fit the model (posterior predictive checks) or for new data. By definition, these predictions have smaller variance than the posterior predictions performed by the `posterior_predict.mvgam` method. This is because only the uncertainty in the expected value of the posterior predictive distribution is incorporated in the draws computed by `posterior_epred` while the residual error is ignored there. However, the estimated means of both methods averaged across draws should be very similar.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
posterior_epred(
  object,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  ndraws = NULL,
  process_error = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from <code>mvgam</code> . See <code>mvgam()</code>
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing the variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If not supplied, predictions are generated for the original observations used for the model fit.
data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of <code>newdata</code> but users are recommended to use <code>newdata</code> instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
ndraws	Positive integer indicating how many posterior draws should be used. If NULL (the default) all draws are used.
process_error	Logical. If TRUE and <code>newdata</code> is supplied, expected uncertainty in the process model is accounted for by using draws from any latent trend SD parameters. If FALSE, uncertainty in the latent trend component is ignored when calculating predictions. If no <code>newdata</code> is supplied, draws from the fitted model's posterior predictive distribution will be used (which will always include uncertainty in any latent trend components)
...	Ignored

**Details**

Note that for all types of predictions for models that did not include a `trend_formula`, uncertainty in the dynamic trend component can be ignored by setting `process_error = FALSE`. However, if a `trend_formula` was supplied in the model, predictions for this component cannot be ignored. If `process_error = TRUE`, trend predictions will ignore autocorrelation coefficients or GP length scale coefficients, ultimately assuming the process is stationary. This method is similar to the types of posterior predictions returned from `brms` models when using autocorrelated error predictions for `newdata`. This function is therefore more suited to posterior simulation from the GAM components of a `mvgam` model, while the forecasting functions `plot_mvgam_fc` and `forecast.mvgam` are better suited to generate h-step ahead forecasts that respect the temporal dynamics of estimated latent trends.

**Value**

A matrix of dimension `n_samples` x `new_obs`, where `n_samples` is the number of posterior samples from the fitted object and `n_obs` is the number of observations in `newdata`

**See Also**

[hindcast.mvgam](#) [posterior\\_linpred.mvgam](#) [posterior\\_predict.mvgam](#)

**Examples**

```
# Simulate some data and fit a model
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
             trend_model = AR(),
             noncentred = TRUE,
             data = simdat$data_train)

# Compute posterior expectations
expectations <- posterior_epred(mod)
str(expectations)
```

---

posterior\_linpred.mvgam

*Posterior Draws of the Linear Predictor*

---

**Description**

Compute posterior draws of the linear predictor, that is draws before applying any link functions or other transformations. Can be performed for the data used to fit the model (posterior predictive checks) or for new data.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
posterior_linpred(
  object,
  transform = FALSE,
  newdata,
  ndraws = NULL,
  data_test,
  process_error = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from <code>mvgam</code> . See <code>mvgam()</code>
transform	Logical; if FALSE (the default), draws of the linear predictor are returned. If TRUE, draws of the transformed linear predictor, i.e. the conditional expectation, are returned.

newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing the variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If not supplied, predictions are generated for the original observations used for the model fit.
ndraws	Positive integer indicating how many posterior draws should be used. If NULL (the default) all draws are used.
data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
process_error	Logical. If TRUE and newdata is supplied, expected uncertainty in the process model is accounted for by using draws from any latent trend SD parameters. If FALSE, uncertainty in the latent trend component is ignored when calculating predictions. If no newdata is supplied, draws from the fitted model's posterior predictive distribution will be used (which will always include uncertainty in any latent trend components)
...	Ignored

### Details

Note that for all types of predictions for models that did not include a `trend_formula`, uncertainty in the dynamic trend component can be ignored by setting `process_error = FALSE`. However, if a `trend_formula` was supplied in the model, predictions for this component cannot be ignored. If `process_error = TRUE`, trend predictions will ignore autocorrelation coefficients or GP length scale coefficients, ultimately assuming the process is stationary. This method is similar to the types of posterior predictions returned from `brms` models when using autocorrelated error predictions for `newdata`. This function is therefore more suited to posterior simulation from the GAM components of a `mvgam` model, while the forecasting functions `plot_mvgam_fc` and `forecast.mvgam` are better suited to generate h-step ahead forecasts that respect the temporal dynamics of estimated latent trends.

### Value

A matrix of dimension `n_samples` x `new_obs`, where `n_samples` is the number of posterior samples from the fitted object and `n_obs` is the number of observations in `newdata`

### See Also

[posterior\\_epred.mvgam](#) [posterior\\_predict.mvgam](#)  
[hindcast.mvgam](#) [posterior\\_epred.mvgam](#) [posterior\\_predict.mvgam](#)

### Examples

```
# Simulate some data and fit a model
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
             trend_model = AR(),
             noncentred = TRUE,
             data = simdat$data_train,
             chains = 2)

# Extract linear predictor values
```

```
linpreds <- posterior_linpred(mod)
str(linpreds)
```

---

```
posterior_predict.mvgam
```

*Draws from the Posterior Predictive Distribution*

---

## Description

Compute posterior draws of the posterior predictive distribution. Can be performed for the data used to fit the model (posterior predictive checks) or for new data. By definition, these draws have higher variance than draws of the expected value of the posterior predictive distribution computed by [posterior\\_epred.mvgam](#). This is because the residual error is incorporated in `posterior_predict`. However, the estimated means of both methods averaged across draws should be very similar.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
posterior_predict(
  object,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  ndraws = NULL,
  process_error = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

<code>object</code>	list object returned from <code>mvgam</code> . See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
<code>newdata</code>	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing the variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If not supplied, predictions are generated for the original observations used for the model fit.
<code>data_test</code>	Deprecated. Still works in place of <code>newdata</code> but users are recommended to use <code>newdata</code> instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
<code>ndraws</code>	Positive integer indicating how many posterior draws should be used. If NULL (the default) all draws are used.
<code>process_error</code>	Logical. If TRUE and <code>newdata</code> is supplied, expected uncertainty in the process model is accounted for by using draws from any latent trend SD parameters. If FALSE, uncertainty in the latent trend component is ignored when calculating predictions. If no <code>newdata</code> is supplied, draws from the fitted model's posterior predictive distribution will be used (which will always include uncertainty in any latent trend components)
<code>...</code>	Ignored



## Details

Note that for all types of predictions for models that did not include a `trend_formula`, uncertainty in the dynamic trend component can be ignored by setting `process_error = FALSE`. However, if a `trend_formula` was supplied in the model, predictions for this component cannot be ignored. If `process_error = TRUE`, trend predictions will ignore autocorrelation coefficients or GP length scale coefficients, ultimately assuming the process is stationary. This method is similar to the types of posterior predictions returned from brms models when using autocorrelated error predictions for newdata. This function is therefore more suited to posterior simulation from the GAM components of a mvgam model, while the forecasting functions `plot_mvgam_fc` and `forecast.mvgam` are better suited to generate h-step ahead forecasts that respect the temporal dynamics of estimated latent trends.

## Value

A matrix of dimension `n_samples` x `new_obs`, where `n_samples` is the number of posterior samples from the fitted object and `n_obs` is the number of observations in newdata

## See Also

[hindcast.mvgam](#) [posterior\\_linpred.mvgam](#) [posterior\\_epred.mvgam](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# Simulate some data and fit a model
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
             trend_model = 'AR1',
             data = simdat$data_train)

# Compute posterior predictions
predictions <- posterior_predict(mod)
str(predictions)

## End(Not run)
```

---

ppc.mvgam

*Plot mvgam posterior predictive checks for a specified series*

---

## Description

Plot mvgam posterior predictive checks for a specified series

**Usage**

```
ppc(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
ppc(
  object,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  series = 1,
  type = "hist",
  n_bins,
  legend_position,
  xlab,
  ylab,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from <code>mvgam</code> . See <code>mvgam()</code>
...	further <code>par</code> graphical parameters.
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing at least 'series' and 'time' for the forecast horizon, in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If included, the observed values in the test data are compared to the model's forecast distribution for exploring biases in model predictions. Note this is only useful if the same newdata was also included when fitting the original model.
data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
series	integer specifying which series in the set is to be plotted
type	character specifying the type of posterior predictive check to calculate and plot. Valid options are: 'rootogram', 'mean', 'hist', 'density', 'prop_zero', 'pit' and 'cdf'
n_bins	integer specifying the number of bins to use for binning observed values when plotting a rootogram or histogram. Default is 50 bins for a rootogram, which means that if there are >50 unique observed values, bins will be used to prevent overplotting and facilitate interpretation. Default for a histogram is to use the number of bins returned by a call to <code>hist</code> in base R
legend_position	The location may also be specified by setting <code>x</code> to a single keyword from the list "bottomright", "bottom", "bottomleft", "left", "topleft", "top", "topright", "right" and "center". This places the legend on the inside of the plot frame at the given location. Or alternatively, use "none" to hide the legend.
xlab	label for x axis.
ylab	label for y axis.

## Details

Posterior predictions are drawn from the fitted `mvgam` and compared against the empirical distribution of the observed data for a specified series to help evaluate the model's ability to generate unbiased predictions. For all plots apart from `type = 'rootogram'`, posterior predictions can also be compared to out of sample observations as long as these observations were included as `'data_test'` in the original model fit and supplied here. Rootograms are currently only plotted using the `'hanging'` style.

Note that the predictions used for these plots are those that have been generated directly within the `mvgam()` model, so they can be misleading if the model included flexible dynamic trend components. For a broader range of posterior checks that are created using "new data" predictions, see [pp\\_check.mvgam](#)

## Value

A base R graphics plot showing either a posterior rootogram (for `type == 'rootogram'`), the predicted vs observed mean for the series (for `type == 'mean'`), predicted vs observed proportion of zeroes for the series (for `type == 'prop_zero'`), predicted vs observed histogram for the series (for `type == 'hist'`), kernel density or empirical CDF estimates for posterior predictions (for `type == 'density'` or `type == 'cdf'`) or a Probability Integral Transform histogram (for `type == 'pit'`).

## Author(s)

Nicholas J Clark

## See Also

[pp\\_check.mvgam](#), [predict.mvgam](#)

## Examples

```
# Simulate some smooth effects and fit a model
set.seed(0)
dat <- mgcv::gamSim(1, n = 200, scale = 2)
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(x0) + s(x1) + s(x2) + s(x3),
             data = dat,
             family = gaussian(),
             chains = 2)

# Posterior checks
ppc(mod, type = 'hist')
ppc(mod, type = 'density')
ppc(mod, type = 'cdf')

# Many more options are available with pp_check()
pp_check(mod)
pp_check(mod, type = "ecdf_overlay")
pp_check(mod, type = 'freqpoly')
```

## Description

Perform posterior predictive checks with the help of the **bayesplot** package.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
pp_check(
  object,
  type,
  ndraws = NULL,
  prefix = c("ppc", "ppd"),
  group = NULL,
  x = NULL,
  newdata = NULL,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

object	An object of class <code>mvgam</code> .
type	Type of the ppc plot as given by a character string. See <a href="#">PPC</a> for an overview of currently supported types. You may also use an invalid type (e.g. <code>type = "xyz"</code> ) to get a list of supported types in the resulting error message.
ndraws	Positive integer indicating how many posterior draws should be used. If <code>NULL</code> all draws are used. If not specified, the number of posterior draws is chosen automatically. Ignored if <code>draw_ids</code> is not <code>NULL</code> .
prefix	The prefix of the <b>bayesplot</b> function to be applied. Either <code>"ppc"</code> (posterior predictive check; the default) or <code>"ppd"</code> (posterior predictive distribution), the latter being the same as the former except that the observed data is not shown for <code>"ppd"</code> .
group	Optional name of a factor variable in the model by which to stratify the ppc plot. This argument is required for <code>ppc *_grouped</code> types and ignored otherwise.
x	Optional name of a variable in the model. Only used for ppc types having an <code>x</code> argument and ignored otherwise.
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing the variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If not supplied, predictions are generated for the original observations used for the model fit.
...	Further arguments passed to <a href="#">predict.mvgam</a> as well as to the PPC function specified in <code>type</code> .

**Details**

For a detailed explanation of each of the ppc functions, see the [PPC](#) documentation of the [bayesplot](#) package.

**Value**

A ggplot object that can be further customized using the **ggplot2** package.

**Author(s)**

Nicholas J Clark

**See Also**

[ppc predict.mvgam](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
simdat <- sim_mvgam(seasonality = 'hierarchical')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ series +
             s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6) +
             s(season, series, bs = 'fs', k = 4),
             data = simdat$data_train,
             burnin = 300,
             samples = 300)

# Use pp_check(mod, type = "xyz") for a list of available plot types

# Default is a density overlay for all observations
pp_check(mod)

# Rootograms particularly useful for count data
pp_check(mod, type = "rootogram")

# Grouping plots by series is useful
pp_check(mod, type = "bars_grouped",
          group = "series", ndraws = 50)
pp_check(mod, type = "ecdf_overlay_grouped",
          group = "series", ndraws = 50)
pp_check(mod, type = "stat_freqpoly_grouped",
          group = "series", ndraws = 50)

# Custom functions accepted
prop_zero <- function(x) mean(x == 0)
pp_check(mod, type = "stat", stat = "prop_zero")
pp_check(mod, type = "stat_grouped",
          stat = "prop_zero",
          group = "series")

# Some functions accept covariates to set the x-axes
pp_check(mod, x = "season",
```

```

    type = "ribbon_grouped",
    prob = 0.5,
    prob_outer = 0.8,
    group = "series")

# Many plots can be made without the observed data
pp_check(mod, prefix = "ppd")

## End(Not run)

```

---

predict.mvgam

*Predict from the GAM component of an mvgam model*


---

## Description

Predict from the GAM component of an mvgam model

## Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
predict(
  object,
  newdata,
  data_test,
  type = "link",
  process_error = TRUE,
  summary = TRUE,
  robust = FALSE,
  probs = c(0.025, 0.975),
  ...
)

```

## Arguments

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
newdata	Optional dataframe or list of test data containing the variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If not supplied, predictions are generated for the original observations used for the model fit.
data_test	Deprecated. Still works in place of newdata but users are recommended to use newdata instead for more seamless integration into R workflows
type	When this has the value link (default) the linear predictor is calculated on the link scale. If expected is used, predictions reflect the expectation of the response (the mean) but ignore uncertainty in the observation process. When response is used, the predictions take uncertainty in the observation process into account to return predictions on the outcome scale. When variance is

used, the variance of the response with respect to the mean (mean-variance relationship) is returned. When `type = "terms"`, each component of the linear predictor is returned separately in the form of a `list` (possibly with standard errors, if `summary = TRUE`): this includes parametric model components, followed by each smooth component, but excludes any offset and any intercept. Two special cases are also allowed: `type latent_N` will return the estimated latent abundances from an N-mixture distribution, while `type detection` will return the estimated detection probability from an N-mixture distribution

<code>process_error</code>	Logical. If <code>TRUE</code> and a dynamic trend model was fit, expected uncertainty in the process model is accounted for by using draws from the latent trend SD parameters. If <code>FALSE</code> , uncertainty in the latent trend component is ignored when calculating predictions
<code>summary</code>	Should summary statistics be returned instead of the raw values? Default is <code>TRUE</code> .
<code>robust</code>	If <code>FALSE</code> (the default) the mean is used as the measure of central tendency and the standard deviation as the measure of variability. If <code>TRUE</code> , the median and the median absolute deviation (MAD) are applied instead. Only used if <code>summary</code> is <code>TRUE</code> .
<code>probs</code>	The percentiles to be computed by the <code>quantile</code> function. Only used if <code>summary</code> is <code>TRUE</code> .
<code>...</code>	Ignored

## Details

Note that for all types of predictions for models that did not include a `trend_formula`, uncertainty in the dynamic trend component can be ignored by setting `process_error = FALSE`. However, if a `trend_formula` was supplied in the model, predictions for this component cannot be ignored. If `process_error = TRUE`, trend predictions will ignore autocorrelation coefficients or GP length scale coefficients, ultimately assuming the process is stationary. This method is similar to the types of posterior predictions returned from `brms` models when using autocorrelated error predictions for newdata. This function is therefore more suited to posterior simulation from the GAM components of a `mvgam` model, while the forecasting functions `plot_mvgam_fc` and `forecast.mvgam` are better suited to generate h-step ahead forecasts that respect the temporal dynamics of estimated latent trends.

## Value

Predicted values on the appropriate scale. If `summary = FALSE` and `type != "terms"`, the output is a matrix of dimension `n_draw x n_observations` containing predicted values for each posterior draw in object.

If `summary = TRUE` and `type != "terms"`, the output is an `n_observations x E` matrix. The number of summary statistics `E` is equal to `2 + length(probs)`: The `Estimate` column contains point estimates (either mean or median depending on argument `robust`), while the `Est.Error` column contains uncertainty estimates (either standard deviation or median absolute deviation depending on argument `robust`). The remaining columns starting with `Q` contain quantile estimates as specified via argument `probs`.

If `type = "terms"` and `summary = FALSE`, the output is a named list containing a separate slot for each effect, with the effects returned as matrices of dimension `n_draw x 1`. If `summary = TRUE`, the output resembles that from `predict.gam` when using the call `predict.gam(object, type = "terms", se.fit = TRUE)`, where mean contributions from each effect are returned in matrix form while standard errors (representing the interval:  $(\max(\text{probs}) - \min(\text{probs})) / 2$ ) are returned in a separate matrix

## Examples

```
# Simulate 4 time series with hierarchical seasonality
# and independent AR1 dynamic processes
set.seed(111)
simdat <- sim_mvgam(seasonality = 'hierarchical',
                   trend_model = 'AR1',
                   family = gaussian())

# Fit a model with shared seasonality
mod1 <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc', k = 6),
             data = simdat$data_train,
             family = gaussian(),
             trend_model = AR(),
             noncentred = TRUE,
             chains = 2)

# Generate predictions against observed data
preds <- predict(mod1, summary = TRUE)
head(preds)

# Generate predictions against test data
preds <- predict(mod1, newdata = simdat$data_test, summary = TRUE)
head(preds)
```

---

print.mvgam

*Summary for a fitted mvgam object*

---

## Description

This function takes a fitted `mvgam` object and prints a quick summary

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
print(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	list object returned from <code>mvgam</code>
<code>...</code>	Ignored



**Details**

A brief summary of the model's call is printed

**Value**

A list is printed on-screen

**Author(s)**

Nicholas J Clark

---

 PW

*Specify piecewise linear or logistic trends*


---

**Description**

Set up piecewise linear or logistic trend models in `mvgam`. These functions do not evaluate their arguments – they exist purely to help set up a model with particular piecewise trend models.

**Usage**

```
PW(
  n_changepoints = 10,
  changepoint_range = 0.8,
  changepoint_scale = 0.05,
  growth = "linear"
)
```

**Arguments**

`n_changepoints` A non-negative integer specifying the number of potential changepoints. Potential changepoints are selected uniformly from the first `changepoint_range` proportion of timepoints in data. Default is 10

`changepoint_range` Proportion of history in data in which trend changepoints will be estimated. Defaults to 0.8 for the first 80%.

`changepoint_scale` Parameter modulating the flexibility of the automatic changepoint selection by altering the scale parameter of a Laplace distribution. The resulting prior will be `double_exponential(0, changepoint_scale)`. Large values will allow many changepoints and a more flexible trend, while small values will allow few changepoints. Default is 0.05.

`growth` Character string specifying either 'linear' or 'logistic' growth of the trend. If 'logistic', a variable labelled `cap` MUST be in data to specify the maximum saturation point for the trend (see details and examples in [mvgam](#) for more information). Default is 'linear'.

## Details

*Offsets and intercepts:* For each of these trend models, an offset parameter is included in the trend estimation process. This parameter will be incredibly difficult to identify if you also include an intercept in the observation formula. For that reason, it is highly recommended that you drop the intercept from the formula (i.e.  $y \sim x + \theta$  or  $y \sim x - 1$ , where  $x$  are your optional predictor terms).

*Logistic growth and the cap variable:* When forecasting growth, there is often some maximum achievable point that a time series can reach. For example, total market size, total population size or carrying capacity in population dynamics. It can be advantageous for the forecast to saturate at or near this point so that predictions are more sensible. This function allows you to make forecasts using a logistic growth trend model, with a specified carrying capacity. Note that this capacity does not need to be static over time, it can vary with each series  $x$  timepoint combination if necessary. But you must supply a cap value for each observation in the data when using `growth = 'logistic'`. For observation families that use a non-identity link function, the cap value will be internally transformed to the link scale (i.e. your specified cap will be log transformed if you are using a `poisson()` or `nb()` family). It is therefore important that you specify the cap values on the scale of your outcome. Note also that no missing values are allowed in cap.

## Value

An object of class `mvgam_trend`, which contains a list of arguments to be interpreted by the parsing functions in `mvgam`

## References

Taylor, Sean J., and Benjamin Letham. "Forecasting at scale." *The American Statistician* 72.1 (2018): 37-45.

## Examples

```
# Example of logistic growth with possible changepoints
# Simple logistic growth model
dNt = function(r, N, k){
  r * N * (k - N)
}

# Iterate growth through time
Nt = function(r, N, t, k) {
  for (i in 1:(t - 1)) {

    # population at next time step is current population + growth,
    # but we introduce several 'shocks' as changepoints
    if(i %in% c(5, 15, 25, 41, 45, 60, 80)){
      N[i + 1] <- max(1, N[i] + dNt(r + runif(1, -0.1, 0.1),
                                   N[i], k))
    } else {
      N[i + 1] <- max(1, N[i] + dNt(r, N[i], k))
    }
  }
}
N
```

```

}

# Simulate expected values
set.seed(11)
expected <- Nt(0.004, 2, 100, 30)
plot(expected, xlab = 'Time')

# Take Poisson draws
y <- rpois(100, expected)
plot(y, xlab = 'Time')

# Assemble data into dataframe and model. We set a
# fixed carrying capacity of 35 for this example, but note that
# this value is not required to be fixed at each timepoint
mod_data <- data.frame(y = y,
                       time = 1:100,
                       cap = 35,
                       series = as.factor('series_1'))
plot_mvgam_series(data = mod_data)

# The intercept is nonidentifiable when using piecewise
# trends because the trend functions have their own offset
# parameters 'm'; it is recommended to always drop intercepts
# when using these trend models
mod <- mvgam(y ~ 0,
             trend_model = PW(growth = 'logistic'),
             family = poisson(),
             data = mod_data,
             chains = 2)
summary(mod)

# Plot the posterior hindcast
plot(mod, type = 'forecast')

# View the changepoints with ggplot2 utilities
library(ggplot2)
mcmc_plot(mod, variable = 'delta_trend',
          regex = TRUE) +
  scale_y_discrete(labels = mod$trend_model$changepoints) +
  labs(y = 'Potential changepoint',
       x = 'Rate change')

```

---

residuals.mvgam

*Posterior draws of mvgam residuals*


---

### Description

This method extracts posterior draws of Dunn-Smyth (randomized quantile) residuals in the order in which the data were supplied to the model. It included additional arguments for obtaining summaries of the computed residuals

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
residuals(object, summary = TRUE, robust = FALSE, probs = c(0.025, 0.975), ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class <code>mvgam</code>
summary	Should summary statistics be returned instead of the raw values? Default is TRUE..
robust	If FALSE (the default) the mean is used as the measure of central tendency and the standard deviation as the measure of variability. If TRUE, the median and the median absolute deviation (MAD) are applied instead. Only used if summary is TRUE.
probs	The percentiles to be computed by the <code>quantile</code> function. Only used if summary is TRUE.
...	Further arguments passed to <code>prepare_predictions</code> that control several aspects of data validation and prediction.

**Details**

This method gives residuals as Dunn-Smyth (randomized quantile) residuals. Any observations that were missing (i.e. NA) in the original data will have missing values in the residuals

**Value**

An array of randomized quantile residual values. If `summary = FALSE` the output resembles those of `posterior_epred.mvgam` and `predict.mvgam`.

If `summary = TRUE` the output is an `n_observations x E` matrix. The number of summary statistics `E` is equal to `2 + length(probs)`: The `Estimate` column contains point estimates (either mean or median depending on argument `robust`), while the `Est.Error` column contains uncertainty estimates (either standard deviation or median absolute deviation depending on argument `robust`). The remaining columns starting with `Q` contain quantile estimates as specified via argument `probs`.

**Examples**

```
# Simulate some data and fit a model
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = 'AR1')
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
             trend_model = AR(),
             noncentred = TRUE,
             data = simdat$data_train,
             chains = 2)

# Extract posterior residuals
resids <- residuals(mod)
str(resids)
```

---

RW *Specify autoregressive dynamic processes*


---

**Description**

Set up autoregressive or autoregressive moving average trend models in `mvgam`. These functions do not evaluate their arguments – they exist purely to help set up a model with particular autoregressive trend models.

**Usage**

```
RW(ma = FALSE, cor = FALSE)
```

```
AR(p = 1, ma = FALSE, cor = FALSE)
```

```
CAR(p = 1)
```

```
VAR(ma = FALSE, cor = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>ma</code>	Logical Include moving average terms of order 1? Default is FALSE.
<code>cor</code>	Logical Include correlated process errors as part of a multivariate normal process model? If TRUE and if <code>n_series &gt; 1</code> in the supplied data, a fully structured covariance matrix will be estimated for the process errors. Default is FALSE.
<code>p</code>	A non-negative integer specifying the autoregressive (AR) order. Default is 1. Cannot currently be larger than 3 for AR terms, and cannot be anything other than 1 for continuous time AR (CAR) terms

**Value**

An object of class `mvgam_trend`, which contains a list of arguments to be interpreted by the parsing functions in `mvgam`

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# A short example to illustrate CAR(1) models
# Function to simulate CAR1 data with seasonality
sim_corcar1 = function(n = 120,
                       phi = 0.5,
                       sigma = 1,
                       sigma_obs = 0.75){
# Sample irregularly spaced time intervals
time_dis <- c(0, runif(n - 1, -0.1, 1))
time_dis[time_dis < 0] <- 0; time_dis <- time_dis * 5

# Set up the latent dynamic process
```

```

x <- vector(length = n); x[1] <- -0.3
for(i in 2:n){
  # zero-distances will cause problems in sampling, so mvgam uses a
  # minimum threshold; this simulation function emulates that process
  if(time_dis[i] == 0){
    x[i] <- rnorm(1, mean = (phi ^ 1e-12) * x[i - 1], sd = sigma)
  } else {
    x[i] <- rnorm(1, mean = (phi ^ time_dis[i]) * x[i - 1], sd = sigma)
  }
}

# Add 12-month seasonality
cov1 <- sin(2 * pi * (1 : n) / 12); cov2 <- cos(2 * pi * (1 : n) / 12)
beta1 <- runif(1, 0.3, 0.7); beta2 <- runif(1, 0.2, 0.5)
seasonality <- beta1 * cov1 + beta2 * cov2

# Take Gaussian observations with error and return
data.frame(y = rnorm(n, mean = x + seasonality, sd = sigma_obs),
           season = rep(1:12, 20)[1:n],
           time = cumsum(time_dis))
}

# Sample two time series
dat <- rbind(dplyr::bind_cols(sim_corcar1(phi = 0.65,
                                       sigma_obs = 0.55),
               data.frame(series = 'series1')),
            dplyr::bind_cols(sim_corcar1(phi = 0.8,
                                       sigma_obs = 0.35),
               data.frame(series = 'series2'))) %>%
  dplyr::mutate(series = as.factor(series))

# mvgam with CAR(1) trends and series-level seasonal smooths; the
# State-Space representation (using trend_formula) will be more efficient
mod <- mvgam(formula = y ~ 1,
             trend_formula = ~ s(season, bs = 'cc',
                               k = 5, by = trend),
             trend_model = CAR(),
             data = dat,
             family = gaussian(),
             samples = 300,
             chains = 2)

# View usual summaries and plots
summary(mod)
conditional_effects(mod, type = 'expected')
plot(mod, type = 'trend', series = 1)
plot(mod, type = 'trend', series = 2)
plot(mod, type = 'residuals', series = 1)
plot(mod, type = 'residuals', series = 2)

## End(Not run)

```

---

score.mvgam\_forecast *Compute probabilistic forecast scores for mvgam objects*

---

### Description

Compute probabilistic forecast scores for mvgam objects

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam_forecast'
score(
  object,
  score = "crps",
  log = FALSE,
  weights,
  interval_width = 0.9,
  n_cores = 1,
  ...
)

score(object, ...)
```

### Arguments

object	mvgam_forecast object. See <a href="#">forecast.mvgam()</a> .
score	character specifying the type of proper scoring rule to use for evaluation. Options are: sis (i.e. the Scaled Interval Score), energy, variogram, elpd (i.e. the Expected log pointwise Predictive Density), drps (i.e. the Discrete Rank Probability Score) or crps (the Continuous Rank Probability Score). Note that when choosing elpd, the supplied object must have forecasts on the link scale so that expectations can be calculated prior to scoring. For all other scores, forecasts should be supplied on the response scale (i.e. posterior predictions)
log	logical. Should the forecasts and truths be logged prior to scoring? This is often appropriate for comparing performance of models when series vary in their observation ranges
weights	optional vector of weights (where <code>length(weights) == n_series</code> ) for weighting pairwise correlations when evaluating the variogram score for multivariate forecasts. Useful for down-weighting series that have larger magnitude observations or that are of less interest when forecasting. Ignored if <code>score != 'variogram'</code>
interval_width	proportional value on $[0.05, 0.95]$ defining the forecast interval for calculating coverage and, if <code>score = 'sis'</code> , for calculating the interval score
n_cores	integer specifying number of cores for calculating scores in parallel
...	Ignored

**Value**

a list containing scores and interval coverages per forecast horizon. If `score %in% c('drps', 'crps', 'elpd')`, the list will also contain return the sum of all series-level scores per horizon. If `score %in% c('energy', 'variogram')`, no series-level scores are computed and the only score returned will be for all series. For all scores apart from `elpd`, the `in_interval` column in each series-level slot is a binary indicator of whether or not the true value was within the forecast's corresponding posterior empirical quantiles. Intervals are not calculated when using `elpd` because forecasts will only contain the linear predictors

**See Also**

[forecast.mvgam](#)

**Examples**

```
# Simulate observations for three count-valued time series
data <- sim_mvgam()
# Fit a dynamic model using 'newdata' to automatically produce forecasts
mod <- mvgam(y ~ 1,
             trend_model = RW(),
             data = data$data_train,
             newdata = data$data_test,
             chains = 2)

# Extract forecasts into a 'mvgam_forecast' object
fc <- forecast(mod)

# Compute Discrete Rank Probability Scores and 0.90 interval coverages
fc_scores <- score(fc, score = 'drps')
str(fc_scores)
```

---

series\_to\_mvgam

*This function converts univariate or multivariate time series (xts or ts objects) to the format necessary for [mvgam](#)*

---

**Description**

This function converts univariate or multivariate time series (xts or ts objects) to the format necessary for [mvgam](#)

**Usage**

```
series_to_mvgam(series, freq, train_prop = 0.85)
```



**Arguments**

series            *xts* or *ts* object to be converted to *mvgam* format  
 freq             integer. The seasonal frequency of the series  
 train\_prop       numeric stating the proportion of data to use for training. Should be between 0.25 and 0.95

**Value**

A list object containing outputs needed for *mvgam*, including 'data\_train' and 'data\_test'

**Examples**

```
# A ts object example
data("sunspots")
series <- cbind(sunspots, sunspots)
colnames(series) <- c('blood', 'bone')
head(series)
series_to_mvgam(series, frequency(series), 0.85)

# An xts object example
library(xts)
dates <- seq(as.Date("2001-05-01"), length=30, by="quarter")
data <- cbind(c(gas = rpois(30, cumprod(1+rnorm(30, mean = 0.01, sd = 0.001))))),
             c(oil = rpois(30, cumprod(1+rnorm(30, mean = 0.01, sd = 0.001))))))
series <- xts(x = data, order.by = dates)
colnames(series) <- c('gas', 'oil')
head(series)
series_to_mvgam(series, freq = 4, train_prop = 0.85)
```

---

 sim\_mvgam

---

*Simulate a set of discrete time series for mvgam modelling*


---

**Description**

This function simulates discrete time series data for fitting a multivariate GAM that includes shared seasonality and dependence on state-space latent dynamic factors. Random dependencies among series, i.e. correlations in their long-term trends, are included in the form of correlated loadings on the latent dynamic factors

**Usage**

```
sim_mvgam(
  T = 100,
  n_series = 3,
  seasonality = "shared",
  use_lv = FALSE,
  n_lv = 1,
```

```

trend_model = "RW",
drift = FALSE,
prop_trend = 0.2,
trend_rel,
freq = 12,
family = poisson(),
phi,
shape,
sigma,
nu,
mu,
prop_missing = 0,
prop_train = 0.85
)

```

### Arguments

T	integer. Number of observations (timepoints)
n_series	integer. Number of discrete time series
seasonality	character. Either shared, meaning that all series share the exact same seasonal pattern, or hierarchical, meaning that there is a global seasonality but each series' pattern can deviate slightly
use_lv	logical. If TRUE, use dynamic factors to estimate series' latent trends in a reduced dimension format. If FALSE, estimate independent latent trends for each series
n_lv	integer. Number of latent dynamic factors for generating the series' trends
trend_model	character specifying the time series dynamics for the latent trend. Options are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None (no latent trend component; i.e. the GAM component is all that contributes to the linear predictor, and the observation process is the only source of error; similarly to what is estimated by <a href="#">gam</a>)</li> <li>• RW (random walk with possible drift)</li> <li>• AR1 (with possible drift)</li> <li>• AR2 (with possible drift)</li> <li>• AR3 (with possible drift)</li> <li>• VAR1 (contemporaneously uncorrelated VAR1)</li> <li>• VAR1cor (contemporaneously correlated VAR1)</li> <li>• GP (Gaussian Process with squared exponential kernel)</li> </ul> <p>See <a href="#">mvgam_trends</a> for more details</p>
drift	logical, simulate a drift term for each trend
prop_trend	numeric. Relative importance of the trend for each series. Should be between 0 and 1
trend_rel	Deprecated. Use prop_trend instead
freq	integer. The seasonal frequency of the series

family	family specifying the exponential observation family for the series. Currently supported families are: nb(), poisson(), bernoulli(), tweedie(), gaussian(), betar(), lognormal(), student() and Gamma()
phi	vector of dispersion parameters for the series (i.e. size for nb() or phi for betar()). If length(phi) < n_series, the first element of phi will be replicated n_series times. Defaults to 5 for nb() and tweedie(); 10 for betar()
shape	vector of shape parameters for the series (i.e. shape for gamma()) If length(shape) < n_series, the first element of shape will be replicated n_series times. Defaults to 10
sigma	vector of scale parameters for the series (i.e. sd for gaussian() or student(), log(sd) for lognormal()). If length(sigma) < n_series, the first element of sigma will be replicated n_series times. Defaults to 0.5 for gaussian() and student(); 0.2 for lognormal()
nu	vector of degrees of freedom parameters for the series (i.e. nu for student()) If length(nu) < n_series, the first element of nu will be replicated n_series times. Defaults to 3
mu	vector of location parameters for the series. If length(mu) < n_series, the first element of mu will be replicated n_series times. Defaults to small random values between -0.5 and 0.5 on the link scale
prop_missing	numeric stating proportion of observations that are missing. Should be between 0 and 0.8, inclusive
prop_train	numeric stating the proportion of data to use for training. Should be between 0.2 and 1

### Value

A list object containing outputs needed for `mvgam`, including 'data\_train' and 'data\_test', as well as some additional information about the simulated seasonality and trend dependencies

### Examples

```
# Simulate series with observations bounded at 0 and 1 (Beta responses)
sim_data <- sim_mvgam(family = betar(), trend_model = RW(), prop_trend = 0.6)
plot_mvgam_series(data = sim_data$data_train, series = 'all')

# Now simulate series with overdispersed discrete observations
sim_data <- sim_mvgam(family = nb(), trend_model = RW(), prop_trend = 0.6, phi = 10)
plot_mvgam_series(data = sim_data$data_train, series = 'all')
```

---

summary.mvgam

*Summary for a fitted mvgam object*


---

### Description

These functions take a fitted `mvgam` object and return various useful summaries

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
summary(object, include_betas = TRUE, smooth_test = TRUE, digits = 2, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam_predit'
summary(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
coef(object, summarise = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	list object returned from mvgam
include_betas	Logical. Print a summary that includes posterior summaries of all linear predictor beta coefficients (including spline coefficients)? Defaults to TRUE but use FALSE for a more concise summary
smooth_test	Logical. Compute estimated degrees of freedom and approximate p-values for smooth terms? Defaults to TRUE, but users may wish to set to FALSE for complex models with many smooth or random effect terms
digits	The number of significant digits for printing out the summary; defaults to 2.
...	Ignored
summarise	logical. Summaries of coefficients will be returned if TRUE. Otherwise the full posterior distribution will be returned

**Details**

summary.mvgam and summary.mvgam\_predit return brief summaries of the model's call, along with posterior intervals for some of the key parameters in the model. Note that some smooths have extra penalties on the null space, so summaries for the rho parameters may include more penalty terms than the number of smooths in the original model formula. Approximate p-values for smooth terms are also returned, with methods used for their calculation following those used for mgcv equivalents (see [summary.gam](#) for details). The Estimated Degrees of Freedom (edf) for smooth terms is computed using either edf.type = 1 for models with no trend component, or edf.type = 0 for models with trend components. These are described in the documentation for [jagam](#). Experiments suggest these p-values tend to be more conservative than those that might be returned from an equivalent model fit with [summary.gam](#) using method = 'REML'

coef.mvgam returns either summaries or full posterior estimates for GAM component coefficients

**Value**

For summary.mvgam and summary.mvgam\_predit, a list is printed on-screen showing the summaries for the model

For coef.mvgam, either a matrix of posterior coefficient distributions (if summarise == FALSE or data.frame of coefficient summaries)

**Author(s)**

Nicholas J Clark

---

`ti`*Defining smooths in **mgam** formulae*

---

**Description**

Functions used in definition of smooth terms within model formulae. The functions do not evaluate a (spline) smooth - they exist purely to help set up mgam models using spline based smooths.

**Usage**`ti(...)``te(...)`**Arguments**

... Arguments passed to `mgcv::ti` or `mgcv::te`

**Details**

The functions defined here are just simple wrappers of the respective functions of the **mgcv** package. When using them, please cite the appropriate references obtained via `citation("mgcv")`.

**See Also**

[mgcv::ti](#), [mgcv::te](#)

**Examples**

```
# Simulate some data
dat <- mgcv::gamSim(1, n = 200, scale = 2)

# Fit univariate smooths for all predictors
fit1 <- mvgam(y ~ s(x0) + s(x1) + s(x2) + s(x3),
             data = dat, chains = 2, family = gaussian())
summary(fit1)
conditional_effects(fit1)

# Fit a more complicated smooth model
fit2 <- mvgam(y ~ te(x0, x1) + s(x2, by = x3),
             data = dat, chains = 2, family = gaussian())
summary(fit2)
conditional_effects(fit2)
```

---

 update.mvgam

*Update an existing mvgam object*


---

### Description

This function allows a previously fitted mvgam model to be updated

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mvgam'
update(
  object,
  formula,
  trend_formula,
  data,
  newdata,
  trend_model,
  trend_map,
  use_lv,
  n_lv,
  family,
  share_obs_params,
  priors,
  chains,
  burnin,
  samples,
  threads,
  algorithm,
  lfo = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

object	list object returned from mvgam. See <a href="#">mvgam()</a>
formula	Optional new formula object. Note, mvgam currently does not support dynamic formula updates such as removal of specific terms with - term. When updating, the entire formula needs to be supplied
trend_formula	An optional character string specifying the GAM process model formula. If supplied, a linear predictor will be modelled for the latent trends to capture process model evolution separately from the observation model. Should not have a response variable specified on the left-hand side of the formula (i.e. a valid option would be <code>~ season + s(year)</code> ). Also note that you should not use the identifier series in this formula to specify effects that vary across time series. Instead you should use <code>trend</code> . This will ensure that models in which a <code>trend_map</code> is supplied will still work consistently (i.e. by allowing effects to

vary across process models, even when some time series share the same underlying process model). This feature is only currently available for RW(), AR() and VAR() trend models. In nmix() family models, the trend\_formula is used to set up a linear predictor for the underlying latent abundance

data	<p>A dataframe or list containing the model response variable and covariates required by the GAM formula and optional trend_formula. Should include columns: #'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• series (a factor index of the series IDs; the number of levels should be identical to the number of unique series labels (i.e. <code>n_series = length(levels(data\$series))</code>))</li> <li>• time (numeric or integer index of the time point for each observation). For most dynamic trend types available in mvgam (see argument trend_model), time should be measured in discrete, regularly spaced intervals (i.e. <code>c(1, 2, 3, ...)</code>). However you can use irregularly spaced intervals if using <code>trend_model = CAR(1)</code>, though note that any temporal intervals that are exactly 0 will be adjusted to a very small number (<math>1e-12</math>) to prevent sampling errors. See an example of CAR() trends in <a href="#">CAR</a></li> </ul> <p>Should also include any other variables to be included in the linear predictor of formula</p>
newdata	<p>Optional dataframe or list of test data containing at least series and time in addition to any other variables included in the linear predictor of formula. If included, the observations in variable y will be set to NA when fitting the model so that posterior simulations can be obtained</p>
trend_model	<p>character or function specifying the time series dynamics for the latent trend. Options are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None (no latent trend component; i.e. the GAM component is all that contributes to the linear predictor, and the observation process is the only source of error; similarly to what is estimated by <a href="#">gam</a>)</li> <li>• 'RW' or RW()</li> <li>• 'AR1' or AR(p = 1)</li> <li>• 'AR2' or AR(p = 2)</li> <li>• 'AR3' or AR(p = 3)</li> <li>• 'CAR1' or CAR(p = 1)</li> <li>• 'VAR1' or VAR()(only available in Stan)</li> <li>• 'PWlogistic', 'PWlinear' or PW() (only available in Stan)</li> <li>• 'GP' or GP() (Gaussian Process with squared exponential kernel; only available in Stan)</li> </ul> <p>For all trend types apart from GP(), CAR() and PW(), moving average and/or correlated process error terms can also be estimated (for example, <code>RW(cor = TRUE)</code> will set up a multivariate Random Walk if <code>n_series &gt; 1</code>). See <a href="#">mvgam_trends</a> for more details</p>
trend_map	<p>Optional data.frame specifying which series should depend on which latent trends. Useful for allowing multiple series to depend on the same latent trend process, but with different observation processes. If supplied, a latent factor model is set up by setting <code>use_lv = TRUE</code> and using the mapping to set up the shared trends. Needs to have column names series and trend, with integer</p>

values in the trend column to state which trend each series should depend on. The series column should have a single unique entry for each series in the data (names should perfectly match factor levels of the series variable in data). See examples for details

use_lv	logical. If TRUE, use dynamic factors to estimate series' latent trends in a reduced dimension format. Only available for RW(), AR() and GP() trend models. Defaults to FALSE
n_lv	integer the number of latent dynamic factors to use if use_lv == TRUE. Cannot be > n_series. Defaults arbitrarily to min(2, floor(n_series / 2))
family	<p>family specifying the exponential observation family for the series. Currently supported families are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gaussian() for real-valued data</li> <li>• betar() for proportional data on (0, 1)</li> <li>• lognormal() for non-negative real-valued data</li> <li>• student_t() for real-valued data</li> <li>• Gamma() for non-negative real-valued data</li> <li>• bernoulli() for binary data</li> <li>• poisson() for count data</li> <li>• nb() for overdispersed count data</li> <li>• binomial() for count data with imperfect detection when the number of trials is known; note that the cbind() function must be used to bind the discrete observations and the discrete number of trials</li> <li>• beta_binomial() as for binomial() but allows for overdispersion</li> <li>• nmix() for count data with imperfect detection when the number of trials is unknown and should be modeled via a State-Space N-Mixture model. The latent states are Poisson, capturing the 'true' latent abundance, while the observation process is Binomial to account for imperfect detection. See <a href="#">mvgam_families</a> for an example of how to use this family</li> </ul> <p>Note that only nb() and poisson() are available if using JAGS as the backend. Default is poisson(). See <a href="#">mvgam_families</a> for more details</p>
share_obs_params	logical. If TRUE and the family has additional family-specific observation parameters (e.g. variance components in student_t() or gaussian(), or dispersion parameters in nb() or betar()), these parameters will be shared across all series. This is handy if you have multiple time series that you believe share some properties, such as being from the same species over different spatial units. Default is FALSE.
priors	An optional data.frame with prior definitions (in JAGS or Stan syntax). if using Stan, this can also be an object of class brmsprior (see. <a href="#">prior</a> for details). See <a href="#">get_mvgam_priors</a> and 'Details' for more information on changing default prior distributions
chains	integer specifying the number of parallel chains for the model. Ignored if algorithm %in% c('meanfield', 'fullrank', 'pathfinder', 'laplace')
burnin	integer specifying the number of warmup iterations of the Markov chain to run to tune sampling algorithms. Ignored if algorithm %in% c('meanfield', 'fullrank', 'pathfinder', 'laplace')



samples	integer specifying the number of post-warmup iterations of the Markov chain to run for sampling the posterior distribution
threads	integer Experimental option to use multithreading for within-chain parallelisation in Stan. We recommend its use only if you are experienced with Stan's reduce_sum function and have a slow running model that cannot be sped up by any other means. Only available for some families(poisson(), nb(), gaussian()) and when using Cmdstan as the backend
algorithm	Character string naming the estimation approach to use. Options are "sampling" for MCMC (the default), "meanfield" for variational inference with factorized normal distributions, "fullrank" for variational inference with a multivariate normal distribution, "laplace" for a Laplace approximation (only available when using cmdstanr as the backend) or "pathfinder" for the pathfinder algorithm (only currently available when using cmdstanr as the backend). Can be set globally for the current R session via the "brms.algorithm" option (see <a href="#">options</a> ). Limited testing suggests that "meanfield" performs best out of the non-MCMC approximations for dynamic GAMs, possibly because of the difficulties estimating covariances among the many spline parameters and latent trend parameters. But rigorous testing has not been carried out
lfo	Logical indicating whether this is part of a call to <a href="#">lfo_cv.mvgam</a> . Returns a lighter version of the model with no residuals and fewer monitored parameters to speed up post-processing. But other downstream functions will not work properly, so users should always leave this set as FALSE
...	Other arguments to be passed to <a href="#">mvgam</a>

## Value

A list object of class `mvgam` containing model output, the text representation of the model file, the `mgcv` model output (for easily generating simulations at unsampled covariate values), Dunn-Smyth residuals for each series and key information needed for other functions in the package. See [mvgam-class](#) for details. Use `methods(class = "mvgam")` for an overview on available methods.

## Examples

```
# Simulate some data and fit a Poisson AR1 model
simdat <- sim_mvgam(n_series = 1, trend_model = AR())
mod <- mvgam(y ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
             trend_model = AR(),
             noncentred = TRUE,
             data = simdat$data_train,
             chains = 2)
summary(mod)
conditional_effects(mod, type = 'link')

# Update to an AR2 model
updated_mod <- update(mod, trend_model = AR(p = 2),
                     noncentred = TRUE)
summary(updated_mod)
conditional_effects(updated_mod, type = 'link')
```

```
# Now update to a Binomial AR1 by adding information on trials
# requires that we supply newdata that contains the 'trials' variable
simdat$data_train$trials <- max(simdat$data_train$y) + 15
updated_mod <- update(mod,
                      formula = cbind(y, trials) ~ s(season, bs = 'cc'),
                      noncentred = TRUE,
                      data = simdat$data_train,
                      family = binomial())
summary(updated_mod)
conditional_effects(updated_mod, type = 'link')
```

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