

Package ‘FFdownload’

July 21, 2025

Type Package

Title Download Data from Kenneth French's Website

Version 1.1.1

Description Downloads all the datasets (you can exclude the daily ones or specify a list of those you are targeting specifically) from Kenneth French's Website at <https://mba.tuck.dartmouth.edu/pages/faculty/ken.french/data_library.html>, process them and convert them to list of 'xts' (time series).

Depends R (>= 3.5.0), utils, stats, rvest, xts, xml2, zoo, plyr

Imports timetk

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URL <https://github.com/sstoeckl/ffdownload>,
<https://sstoeckl.github.io/ffdownload/>

BugReports <https://github.com/sstoeckl/ffdownload/issues>

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.2.1

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, dplyr, viridis, ggplot2, tidyr

VignetteBuilder knitr

NeedsCompilation no

Author Sebastian Stoeckl [aut, cre] (ORCID:
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4196-6093>>, Package commissioner and
maintainer.),
Annar Massimov [ctb] (Original developer of FFdownload.)

Maintainer Sebastian Stoeckl <sebastian.stoeckl@uni.li>

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converter	<i>Converter to read downloaded datasets and automatically put them into one large dataframe with xts</i>
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Description

converter read/clean/write

Usage

converter(file)

Arguments

file downloaded dataset

Value

list of annual/monthly/daily files

converter_tbl	<i>Converter to read downloaded datasets and automatically put them into one large dataframe with xts</i>
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Description

converter read/clean/write

Usage

converter_tbl(file)

Arguments

file downloaded dataset

Value

list of annual/monthly/daily files

FFdownload

*Downloads Datasets from Kenneth French's Website***Description**

FFdownload returns an RData file with all (possibility to exclude the large daily) datasets from Kenneth French's Website. Should help researchers to work with the datasets and update the regularly. Allows for reproducible research. Be aware that processing (especially when including daily files) takes quite a long time!

Usage

```
FFdownload(
  output_file = "data.Rdata",
  tempd = NULL,
  exclude_daily = FALSE,
  download = TRUE,
  download_only = FALSE,
  listsave = NULL,
  inputlist = NULL,
  format = "xts"
)
```

Arguments

output_file	name of the .RData file to be saved (include path if necessary)
tempd	specify if you want to keep downloaded files somewhere save. Seems to be necessary for reproducible research as the files on the website do change from time to time
exclude_daily	excludes the daily datasets (are not downloaded) ==> speeds the process up considerably
download	set to TRUE if you actually want to download again. set to false and specify tempd to keep processing the already downloaded files
download_only	set to FALSE if you want to process all your downloaded files at once
listsave	if not NULL, the list of unzipped files is saved here (good for processing only a limited number of files through inputlist). Is written before inputlist is processed.
inputlist	if not NULL, FFdownload tries to match the names from the list with the list of zip-files
format	(set to xts) specify "xts" or "tbl"/"tibble" for the output format of the nested lists

Value

RData file

Examples

```
## Not run:
tempf <- tempfile(fileext = ".RData"); outd <- paste0(tempdir(), "/", format(Sys.time(), "%F_%H-%M"))
temptxt <- tempfile(fileext = ".txt")

# Example 1: Use FFdownload to get a list of all monthly zip-files. Save that list as temptxt.

FFdownload(exclude_daily=TRUE,download=FALSE,download_only=TRUE,listsave=temptxt)
read.delim(temptxt,sep = ",")
# set vector with only files to download (we try a fuzzyjoin, so "Momentum" should be enough to get
# the Momentum Factor)
inputlist <- c("Research_Data_Factors","Momentum_Factor","ST_Reversal_Factor","LT_Reversal_Factor")
# Now process only these files if they can be matched (download only)
FFdownload(exclude_daily=FALSE,tempd=outd,download=TRUE,download_only=FALSE,
inputlist=inputlist,output_file = tempf)
list.files(outd)
# Then process all the downloaded files
FFdownload(output_file = tempf, exclude_daily=TRUE,tempd=outd,download=FALSE,
download_only=FALSE,inputlist=inputlist)
load(tempf); FFdata$x_F-F_Momentum_Factor`$monthly$Temp2[1:10]

# Example 2: Download all non-daily files and process them

# Commented out to not being tested
# tempf2 <- tempfile(fileext = ".RData");
# outd2<- paste0(tempdir(), "/", format(Sys.time(), "%F_%H-%M"))
# FFdownload(output_file = tempf2,tempd = outd2, exclude_daily = TRUE, download = TRUE,
# download_only=FALSE, listsave=temptxt)
# load(tempf2)
# FFdownload$x_25_Portfolios_5x5$monthly$average_value_weighted_returns

## End(Not run)
```

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