

# Package ‘dataPreparation’

July 19, 2019

**Title** Automated Data Preparation

**Version** 0.4.1

**Description** Do most of the painful data preparation for a data science project with a minimum amount of code; Take advantages of data.table efficiency and use some algorithmic trick in order to perform data preparation in a time and RAM efficient way.

**Depends** R (>= 3.3.0), lubridate, stringr, Matrix, progress

**License** GPL-3 | file LICENSE

**LazyData** true

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 6.1.1

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, kableExtra, pander, testthat (>= 2.0.0)

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Imports** data.table

**BugReports** <https://github.com/ELToulemonde/dataPreparation/issues>

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Emmanuel-Lin Toulemonde [aut, cre]

**Maintainer** Emmanuel-Lin Toulemonde <el.toulemonde@protonmail.com>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2019-07-19 13:30:03 UTC

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---

adult

*Adult for UCI repository*


---

## Description

For examples and tutorials, and in order to build `messy_adult`, UCI adult data set is used.

Data Set Information:

Extraction was done by Barry Becker from the 1994 Census database. A set of reasonably clean records was extracted using the following conditions: ((AAGE>16) && (AGI>100) && (AFNL-WGT>1)&& (HRSWK>0))

Prediction task is to determine whether a person makes over 50K a year.

**Usage**

```
data("adult")
```

**Format**

A data.frame with 32561 rows and 15 variables.

**References**

<https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/adult>

---

aggregateByKey      *Automatic dataSet aggregation by key*

---

**Description**

Automatic aggregation of a dataSet set according to a key.

**Usage**

```
aggregateByKey(dataSet, key, verbose = TRUE, thresh = 53, ...)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table (with only numeric, integer, factor, logical, character columns)
key	Name of a column of dataSet according to which the set should be aggregated (character)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to TRUE)
thresh	Number of max values for frequencies count (numerical, default to 53)
...	Optional argument: functions: aggregation functions for numeric columns (vector of function names (character), optional, if not set we use: c("mean", "min", "max", "sd"))

**Details**

Perform aggregation depending on column type:

- If column is numeric functions are performed on the column. So 1 numeric column give length(functions) new columns,
- If column is character or factor and have less than thresh different values, frequency count of values is performed,
- If column is character or factor with more than thresh different values, number of different values for each key is performed,
- If column is logical, number of TRUE is computed.

In all cases, if the set as more rows than unique `key`, a number of lines will be computed.

Be careful using functions argument, given functions should be an aggregation function, meaning that for multiple values it should only return one value.

## Value

A `data.table` with one line per key elements and multiple new columns.

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# Get generic dataset from R
data("adult")

# Aggregate it using aggregateByKey, in order to extract characteristics for each country
adult_aggregated <- aggregateByKey(adult, key = 'country')

# Exmple with other functions
power <- function(x) {sum(x^2)}
adult_aggregated <- aggregateByKey(adult, key = 'country', functions = c("power", "sqrt"))

# sqrt is not an aggregation function, so it wasn't used.

## End(Not run)
# "##NOT RUN:" mean that this example hasn't been run on CRAN since its long. But you can ru
```

---

as.POSIXct\_fast      *Faster date transformation*

---

## Description

Based on the trick that often dates are repeated in a column, we make date transformation faster by computing date transformation only on uniques.

## Usage

```
as.POSIXct_fast(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object to be converted
<code>...</code>	other argument to pass to <code>as.POSIXct</code>

## Details

The more

**Value**

as.POSIXct and as.POSIXlt return an object of the appropriate class. If tz was specified, as.POSIXlt will give an appropriate "tzzone" attribute. Date-times known to be invalid will be returned as NA.

**Examples**

```
# Work the same as as.POSIXct
as.POSIXct_fast("2018-01-01", format="%Y-%m-%d")
```

---

build_bins	<i>Compute bins</i>
------------	---------------------

---

**Description**

Compute bins for discretization of numeric variable (either equal\_width or equal\_fred).

**Usage**

```
build_bins(dataSet, cols = "auto", n_bins = 10, type = "equal_width",
           verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of numeric column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform. To transform all characters, set it to "auto". (character, default to "auto")
n_bins	Number of group to compute (numeric, default to 10)
type	Type of discretization ("equal_width" or "equal_freq")
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

Using equal freq first bin will start at -Inf and last bin will end at +Inf.

**Value**

A list where each element name is a column name of data set and each element contains bins to discretize this column.

**Examples**

```
# Load data
data(messy_adult)
head(messy_adult)

# Compute bins
bins <- build_bins(messy_adult, cols = "auto", n_bins = 5, type = "equal_freq")
print(bins)
```

---

```
build_encoding      Compute encoding
```

---

### Description

Build a list of one hot encoding for each cols.

### Usage

```
build_encoding(dataSet, cols = "auto", verbose = TRUE,
               min_frequency = 0, ...)
```

### Arguments

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of numeric column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform. To transform all characters, set it to "auto". (character, default to "auto")
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)
min_frequency	The minimal share of lines that a category should represent (numeric, between 0 and 1, default to 0)
...	Other arguments such as name_separator to separate words in new columns names (character, default to ".")

### Details

To avoid creating really large sparse matrices, one can use param `min_frequency` to be sure that only most representative values will be used to create a new column (and not outliers or mistakes in data).

Setting `min_frequency` to something gretter than 0 may cause the function to be slower (especially for large dataSet).

### Value

A list where each element name is a column name of data set and each element `new_cols` and values the new columns that will be built during encoding.

### Examples

```
# Get a data set
data(adult)
encoding <- build_encoding(adult, cols = "auto", verbose = TRUE)

print(encoding)

# To limit the number of generated columns, one can use min_frequency parameter:
build_encoding(adult, cols = "auto", verbose = TRUE, min_frequency = 0.1)
# Set to 0.1, it will create columns only for values that are present 10% of the time.
```

---

build_scales	<i>Compute scales</i>
--------------	-----------------------

---

**Description**

Build a list of means and standard deviation for each `cols`.

**Usage**

```
build_scales(dataSet, cols = "auto", verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>dataSet</code>	Matrix, <code>data.frame</code> or <code>data.table</code>
<code>cols</code>	List of numeric column(s) name(s) of <code>dataSet</code> to transform. To transform all characters, set it to "auto". (character, default to "auto")
<code>verbose</code>	Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)

**Value**

A list where each element name is a column name of data set and each element contains means and sd.

**Examples**

```
# Get a data set
data(adult)
scales <- build_scales(adult, cols = "auto", verbose = TRUE)

print(scales)
```

---

build_target_encoding	<i>Build target encoding</i>
-----------------------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

Target encoding is the process of replacing a categorical value with the aggregation of the target variable. `build_target_encoding` is used to compute aggregations.

**Usage**

```
build_target_encoding(dataSet, cols_to_encode, target_col,
  functions = "mean", verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

`dataSet` Matrix, data.frame or data.table  
`cols_to_encode` columns to aggregate according to (list)  
`target_col` column to aggregate (character)  
`functions` functions of aggregation (list or character, default to "mean")  
`verbose` Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)

**Value**

A list of data.table a data.table for each cols\_to\_encode each data.table containing a line by unique value of column and len(functions) + 1 columns.

**Examples**

```
# Build a data set
require(data.table)
dataSet <- data.table(student = c("Marie", "Marie", "Pierre", "Louis", "Louis"),
                      grades = c(1, 1, 2, 3, 4))

# Perform target_encoding construction
build_target_encoding(dataSet, cols_to_encode = "student", target_col = "grades",
                      functions = c("mean", "sum"))
```

---

dataPrepNews

*Show the NEWS file*

---

**Description**

Show the NEWS file of the dataPreparation package.

**Usage**

```
dataPrepNews()
```



---

`dateFormatUnifier` *Unify dates format*

---

## Description

Unify every column in a date format to the same date format.

## Usage

```
dateFormatUnifier(dataSet, format = "Date")
```

## Arguments

<code>dataSet</code>	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
<code>format</code>	Desired target format: Date, POSIXct or POSIXlt, (character, default to Date)

## Details

This function only handle Date, POSIXct and POSIXlt dates.  
POSIXct format is a bit slower than Date but can keep hours-min.

## Value

The same `dataSet` set but with dates column with the desired format.

## Examples

```
# build a data.table
require(data.table)
dataSet <- data.table( column1 = as.Date("2016-01-01"), column2 = as.POSIXct("2017-01-01") )

# Use the function
dataSet = dateFormatUnifier(dataSet, format = "Date")

# Control result
sapply(dataSet, class)
# return Date for both columns
```

---

```
description          Describe data set
```

---

**Description**

Generate extensive description of a data set.

**Usage**

```
description(dataSet, level = 1, path_to_write = NULL, verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

```
dataSet          Matrix, data.frame or data.table
level            Level of description (0: generic, 1: column by column) (numeric, default to 1)
path_to_write    Path where the report should be written (character, default to NULL)
verbose          Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)
```

**Examples**

```
# Load exemple set
data(messy_adult)

# Describe it
description(messy_adult)
```

---

```
fastDiscretization Discretization
```

---

**Description**

Discretization of numeric variable (either equal\_width or equal\_fred).

**Usage**

```
fastDiscretization(dataSet, bins = NULL, verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

```
dataSet          Matrix, data.frame or data.table
bins              Result of funcion build_bins, (list, default to NULL).
                  To perform the same discretization on train and test, it is recommended to compute
                  build_bins before. If it is kept to NULL, build_bins will be called.
                  bins could also be carefully hand written.
verbose          Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)
```

**Details**

NAs will be putted in an NA category.

**Value**

Same dataset discretized by **reference**.

If you don't want to edit by reference please provide `set dataSet = copy (dataSet)`.

**Examples**

```
# Load data
data(messy_adult)
head(messy_adult)

# Compute bins
bins <- build_bins(messy_adult, cols = "auto", n_bins = 5, type = "equal_freq")

# Discretize
messy_adult <- fastDiscretization(messy_adult, bins = bins)

# Control
head(messy_adult)

# Example with hand written bins
data("adult")
adult <- fastDiscretization(adult, bins = list(age = c(0, 40, +Inf)))
print(table(adult$age))
```

---

fastFilterVariables

*Filtering useless variables*

---

**Description**

Delete columns that are constant or in double in your dataSet set.

**Usage**

```
fastFilterVariables(dataSet, level = 3, keep_cols = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
level	which columns do you want to filter (1 = constant, 2 = constant and doubles, 3 = constant doubles and bijections, 4 = constant doubles bijections and included)(numeric, default to 3)
keep_cols	List of columns not to drop (list of character, default to NULL)

verbose      Should the algorithm talk (logical or 1 or 2, default to TRUE)  
 ...          optional parameters to be passed to the function when called from another function

### Details

verbose can be set to 2 have full details from which functions, otherwise they don't log. (verbose = 1 is equivalent to verbose = TRUE).

### Value

The same dataSet but with fewer columns. Columns that are constant, in double, or bijection of another have been deleted.

### Examples

```
# First let's build a data.frame with 3 columns: a constant column, and a column in double
df <- data.frame(col1 = 1, col2 = rnorm(1e6), col3 = sample(c(1, 2), 1e6, replace = TRUE))
df$col4 <- df$col2
df$col5[df$col3 == 1] = "a"
df$col5[df$col3 == 2] = "b" # Same info than in col1 but with a for 1 and b for 2
head(df)

# Let's filter columns:
df <- fastFilterVariables(df)
head(df)
```

---

fastHandleNa      *Handle NA values*

---

### Description

Handle NAs values depending on the class of the column.

### Usage

```
fastHandleNa(dataSet, set_num = 0, set_logical = FALSE,
  set_char = "", verbose = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

dataSet      Matrix, data.frame or data.table  
 set\_num      NAs replacement for numeric column, (numeric or function, default to 0)  
 set\_logical   NAs replacement for logical column, (logical or function, default to FALSE)  
 set\_char      NAs replacement for character column, (character or function, default to "")  
 verbose      Should the algorithm talk (logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

To preserve RAM this function edits `dataSet` by **reference**. To keep object unchanged, please use `copy`.

If you provide a function, it will be applied to the full column. So this function should handle NAs. For factor columns, it will add NA to list of values.

**Value**

`dataSet` as a `data.table` with NAs replaced.

**Examples**

```
# Build a useful dataSet set for example
require(data.table)
dataSet <- data.table(numCol = c(1, 2, 3, NA),
                      charCol = c("", "a", NA, "c"),
                      booleanCol = c(TRUE, NA, FALSE, NA))

# To set NAs to 0, FALSE and "" (respectively for numeric, logical, character)
fastHandleNa(copy(dataSet))

# In a numeric column to set NAs as "missing"
fastHandleNa(copy(dataSet), set_char = "missing")

# In a numeric column, to set NAs to the minimum value of the column#'
fastHandleNa(copy(dataSet), set_num = min) # Won't work because min(c(1, NA)) = NA so put ba
fastHandleNa(copy(dataSet), set_num = function(x)min(x,na.rm = TRUE)) # Now we handle NAs

# In a numeric column, to set NAs to the share of NAs values
rateNA <- function(x){sum(is.na(x)) / length(x)}
fastHandleNa(copy(dataSet), set_num = rateNA)
```

---

fastIsEqual

*Fast checks of equality*


---

**Description**

Performs quick check if two objects are equal.

**Usage**

```
fastIsEqual(object1, object2)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object1</code>	An element, a vector, a data.frame, a data.table
<code>object2</code>	An element, a vector, a data.frame, a data.table

**Details**

This function uses exponential search trick, so it is fast for very large vectors, data.frame and data.table. This function is also very robust; you can compare a lot of stuff without failing.

**Value**

Logical (TRUE or FALSE) if the two objects are equals.

**Examples**

```
# Test on a character
fastIsEqual("a", "a")
fastIsEqual("a", "b")

# Test on a vector
myVector <- rep(x = "a", 10000)
fastIsEqual(myVector, myVector)

# Test on a data.table
fastIsEqual(messy_adult, messy_adult)
```

---

fastRound

*Fast round*


---

**Description**

Fast round of numeric columns in a data.table. Will only round numeric, so don't worry about characters. Also, it computes it column by column so your RAM is safe too.

**Usage**

```
fastRound(dataSet, cols = "auto", digits = 2, verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of numeric column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform. To transform all numerics columns, set it to "auto" (characters, default to "auto")
digits	The number of digits after comma (numeric, default to 2)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

It is performing round by **reference** on dataSet, column by column, only on numerical columns. So that it avoid copying dataSet in RAM.

**Value**

The same datasets but as a data.table and with numeric rounded.

**Examples**

```
# First let's build a very large data.table with random numbers
require(data.table)
M <- as.data.table(matrix(runif (3e4), ncol = 10))

M_rouded <- fastRound(M, 2)
# Lets add some character
M[, stringColumn := "a string"]

# And use our function
M_rouded <- fastRound(M, 2)
# It still work :) and you don't have to worry about the string.
```

---

fastScale

*scale*


---

**Description**

Perform efficient scaling on a data set.

**Usage**

```
fastScale(dataSet, scales = NULL, way = "scale", verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
scales	Result of function <code>build_scales</code> , (list, default to NULL). To perform the same scaling on train and test, it is recommended to compute <code>build_scales</code> before. If it is kept to NULL, <code>build_scales</code> will be called.
way	should scaling or unscaling be performed? (character either "scale" or "unscale", default to "scale")
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

Scaling numeric values is useful for some machine learning algorithm such as logistic regression or neural networks.

Unscaling numeric values can be very useful for most post-model analysis to do so set way to "unscale".

This implementation of scale will be faster than `scale` for large data sets.

**Value**

dataSet with columns scaled (or unscaled) by **reference**. Scaled means that each column mean will be 0 and each column standard deviation will be 1.

**Examples**

```
# Load data
data(adult)

# compute scales
scales <- build_scales(adult, cols = "auto", verbose = TRUE)

# Scale data set
adult <- fastScale(adult, scales = scales, verbose = TRUE)

# Control
print(mean(adult$age)) # Almost 0
print(sd(adult$age)) # 1

# To unscale it:
adult <- fastScale(adult, scales = scales, way = "unscale", verbose = TRUE)

# Control
print(mean(adult$age)) # About 38.6
print(sd(adult$age)) # About 13.6
```

---

```
findAndTransformDates
      Identify date columns
```

---

**Description**

Find and transform dates that are hidden in a character column.  
It use a bunch of default formats, and you can also add your own formats.

**Usage**

```
findAndTransformDates(dataSet, cols = "auto", formats = NULL,
  n_test = 30, ambiguities = "IGNORE", verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of column(s) name(s) of dataSet to look into. To check all all columns, set it to "auto". (characters, default to "auto")
formats	List of additional Date formats to check (see <code>strptime</code> )
n_test	Number of non-null rows on which to test (numeric, default to 30)



ambiguities	How ambiguities should be treated (see details in ambiguities section) (character, default to IGNORE)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)

### Details

This function is using `identifyDates` to find formats. Please see it's documentation. In case `identifyDates` doesn't find wanted formats you can either provide format in param `formats` or use `setColAsDate` to force transformation.

### Value

dataSet set (as a data.table) with identified dates transformed by **reference**.

### Ambiguity

Ambiguities are often present in dates. For example, in date: 2017/01/01, there is no way to know if format is YYYY/MM/DD or YYYY/DD/MM.

Some times ambiguity can be solved by a human. For example 17/12/31, a human might guess that it is YY/MM/DD, but there is no sure way to know.

To be safe, `findAndTransformDates` doesn't try to guess ambiguities.

To answer ambiguities problem, param `ambiguities` is now available. It can take one of the following values

- IGNORE function will then take the first format which match (fast, but can make some mistakes)
- WARN function will try all format and tell you - via prints - that there are multiple matches (and won't perform date transformation)
- SOLVE function will try to solve ambiguity by going through more lines, so will be slower. If it is able to solve it, it will transform the column, if not it will print the various acceptable formats.

If there are some columns that have no chance to be a match think of removing them from `cols` to save some computation time.

### Examples

```
# Load exemple set
data(messy_adult)
head(messy_adult)
# using the findAndTransformDates
findAndTransformDates(messy_adult, n_test = 5)
head(messy_adult)

# Example with ambiguities
## Not run:
require(data.table)
data(messy_adult) # reload data
# Add an ambiguity by sorting datel
messy_adult$datel = sort(messy_adult$datel, na.last = TRUE)
```

```
# Try all three methods:
result_1 = findAndTransformDates(copy(messy_adult))
result_2 = findAndTransformDates(copy(messy_adult), ambiguities = "WARN")
result_3 = findAndTransformDates(copy(messy_adult), ambiguities = "SOLVE")

## End(Not run)
# "##NOT RUN:" mean that this example hasn't been run on CRAN since its long. But you can ru
```

---

```
findAndTransformNumerics
```

*Identify numeric columns in a dataSet set*

---

## Description

Function to find and transform characters that are in fact numeric.

## Usage

```
findAndTransformNumerics(dataSet, cols = "auto", n_test = 30,
  verbose = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of column(s) name(s) of dataSet to look into. To check all all columns, set it to "auto". (characters, default to "auto")
n_test	Number of non-null rows on which to test (numeric, default to 30)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to TRUE)

## Details

This function is looking for perfect transformation. If there are some mistakes in dataSet, consider setting them to NA before.

If there are some columns that have no chance to be a match think of removing them from cols to save some computation time.

## Value

The dataSet set (as a data.table) with identified numeric transformed.

## Warning

All these changes will happen **by reference**.

**Examples**

```
# Let's build a dataSet set
dataSet <- data.frame(ID = 1:5,
                     col1 = c("1.2", "1.3", "1.2", "1", "6"),
                     col2 = c("1,2", "1,3", "1,2", "1", "6")
                     )

# using the findAndTransformNumerics
findAndTransformNumerics(dataSet, n_test = 5)
```

---

generateDateDiffs *Date difference*

---

**Description**

Perform the differences between all dates of the dataSet set and optionally with a static date.

**Usage**

```
generateDateDiffs(dataSet, cols = "auto", analysisDate = NULL,
                  units = "years", drop = FALSE, verbose = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of date column(s) name(s) of dataSet to compute difference on. To transform all dates, set it to "auto". (character, default to "auto")
analysisDate	Static date (Date or POSIXct, optional)
units	Unit of difference between two dates (string, default to 'years')
drop	Should cols be dropped after generation (logical, default to FALSE)
verbose	should the function log (logical, default to TRUE)
...	Other arguments such as name_separator to separate words in new columns names (character, default to ".")

**Details**

units is the same as difftime units, but with one more possibility: years.

**Value**

dataSet (as a data.table) with more columns. A numeric column has been added for every couple of Dates. The result is in years.

**Examples**

```
# First build a useful dataSet set
require(data.table)
dataSet <- data.table(ID = 1:100,
  date1 = seq(from = as.Date("2010-01-01"),
    to = as.Date("2015-01-01"),
    length.out = 100),
  date2 = seq(from = as.Date("1910-01-01"),
    to = as.Date("2000-01-01"),
    length.out = 100)
)

# Now let's compute
dataSet <- generateDateDiffs(dataSet, cols = "auto", analysisDate = as.Date("2016-11-14"))
```

---

```
generateFactorFromDate
  Generate factor from dates
```

---

**Description**

Taking Date or POSIXct columns, and building factor columns from them.

**Usage**

```
generateFactorFromDate(dataSet, cols = "auto", type = "yearmonth",
  drop = FALSE, verbose = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of date column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform into factor. To transform all dates, set it to "auto". (characters, default to "auto")
type	"year", "yearquarter", "yearmonth", "quarter" or "month", way to aggregate a date, (character, default to "yearmonth")
drop	Should cols be dropped after generation (logical, default to FALSE)
verbose	Should the function log (logical, default to TRUE)
...	Other arguments such as name_separator to separate words in new columns names (character, default to ".")

**Value**

dataSet with new columns. dataSet is edited by **reference**.

**Examples**

```

# Load set, and find dates
data(messy_adult)
messy_adult <- findAndTransformDates(messy_adult, verbose = FALSE)

# Generate new columns
# Generate year month columns
messy_adult <- generateFactorFromDate(messy_adult, cols = c("date1", "date2", "num1"))
head(messy_adult[, .(date1.yearmonth, date2.yearmonth)])

# Generate quarter columns
messy_adult <- generateFactorFromDate(messy_adult, cols = c("date1", "date2"), type = "quarter")
head(messy_adult[, .(date1.quarter, date2.quarter)])

```

---

```

generateFromCharacter
      Recode character

```

---

**Description**

Recode character into 3 new columns:

- was the value not NA, "NA", "",
- how often this value occurs,
- the order of the value (ex: M/F => 2/1 because F comes before M in alphabet).

**Usage**

```

generateFromCharacter(dataSet, cols = "auto", verbose = TRUE,
  drop = FALSE, ...)

```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of character column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform. To transform all characters, set it to "auto". (character, default to "auto")
verbose	Should the function log (logical, default to TRUE)
drop	Should cols be dropped after generation (logical, default to FALSE)
...	Other arguments such as name_separator to separate words in new columns names (character, default to ".")

**Value**

dataSet with new columns. dataSet is edited by **reference**.

**Examples**

```
# Load data set
data(messy_adult)
messy_adult <- unFactor(messy_adult, verbose = FALSE) # un factor ugly factors

# transform column "mail"
messy_adult <- generateFromCharacter(messy_adult, cols = "mail")
head(messy_adult)

# To transform all characters columns:
messy_adult <- generateFromCharacter(messy_adult, cols = "auto")
```

---

generateFromFactor *Recode factor*

---

**Description**

Recode factors into 3 new columns:

- was the value not NA, "NA", "",
- how often this value occurs,
- the order of the value (ex: M/F => 2/1 because F comes before M in alphabet).

**Usage**

```
generateFromFactor(dataSet, cols = "auto", verbose = TRUE,
  drop = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	list of character column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform. To transform all factors, set it to "auto". (character, default to "auto")
verbose	Should the function log (logical, default to TRUE)
drop	Should cols be dropped after generation (logical, default to FALSE)
...	Other arguments such as name_separator to separate words in new columns names (character, default to ".")

**Value**

dataSet with new columns. dataSet is edited by **reference**.

**Examples**

```
# Load data set
data(messy_adult)

# transform column "type_employer"
messy_adult <- generateFromFactor(messy_adult, cols = "type_employer")
head(messy_adult)

# To transform all factor columns:
messy_adult <- generateFromFactor(messy_adult, cols = "auto")
```

---

identifyDates	<i>Identify date columns</i>
---------------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

Function to identify dates columns and give there format. It use a bunch of default formats. But you can also add your own formats.

**Usage**

```
identifyDates(dataSet, cols = "auto", formats = NULL, n_test = 30,
  ambiguities = "IGNORE", verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of column(s) name(s) of dataSet to look into. To check all all columns, set it to "auto". (characters, default to "auto")
formats	List of additional Date formats to check (see <code>strptime</code> )
n_test	Number of non-null rows on which to test (numeric, default to 30)
ambiguities	How ambiguities should be treated (see details in ambiguities section) (character, default to IGNORE)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

This function is looking for perfect transformation. If there are some mistakes in dataSet, consider setting them to NA before.

In the unlikely case where you have numeric higher than `as.numeric(as.POSIXct("1990-01-01"))` they will be considered as timestamps and you might have some issues. On the other side, if you have timestamps before 1990-01-01, they won't be found, but you can use `setColAsDate` to force transformation.

**Value**

A named list with names being col names of dataSet and values being formats.

## Ambiguity

Ambiguities are often present in dates. For example, in date: 2017/01/01, there is no way to know if format is YYYY/MM/DD or YYYY/DD/MM.

Some times ambiguity can be solved by a human. For example 17/12/31, a human might guess that it is YY/MM/DD, but there is no sure way to know.

To be safe, `findAndTransformDates` doesn't try to guess ambiguities.

To answer ambiguities problem, param `ambiguities` is now available. It can take one of the following values

- `IGNORE` function will then take the first format which match (fast, but can make some mistakes)
- `WARN` function will try all format and tell you - via prints - that there are multiple matches (and won't perform date transformation)
- `SOLVE` function will try to solve ambiguity by going through more lines, so will be slower. If it is able to solve it, it will transform the column, if not it will print the various acceptable formats.

## Examples

```
# Load exemple set
data(messy_adult)
head(messy_adult)
# using the findAndTransformDates
identifyDates(messy_adult, n_test = 5)
```

---

messy\_adult

*Adult with some ugly columns added*

---

## Description

For examples and tutorials, `messy_adult` has been built using UCI `adult`.

## Usage

```
data("messy_adult")
```

## Format

A `data.table` with 32561 rows and 24 variables.

## Details

We added 9 really ugly columns to the data set:

- 4 dates with various formats and time stamp, containing NAs
- 1 constant column
- 3 numeric with different decimal separator
- 1 email address



---

one_hot_encoder	<i>One hot encoder</i>
-----------------	------------------------

---

### Description

Transform factor column into 0/1 columns with one column per values of the column.

### Usage

```
one_hot_encoder(dataSet, encoding = NULL, type = "integer",  
  verbose = TRUE, drop = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
encoding	Result of function <code>build_encoding</code> , (list, default to NULL). To perform the same encoding on train and test, it is recommended to compute <code>build_encoding</code> before. If it is kept to NULL, <code>build_encoding</code> will be called.
type	What class of columns is expected? "integer" (0L/1L), "numeric" (0/1), or "logical" (TRUE/FALSE), (character, default to "integer")
verbose	Should the function log (logical, default to TRUE)
drop	Should cols be dropped after generation (logical, default to FALSE)

### Details

If you don't want to edit your data set consider sending `copy(dataSet)` as an input.  
Please **be careful** using this function, it will generate as many columns as there different values in your column and might use a lot of RAM. To be safe, you can use parameter `min_frequency` in `build_encoding`.

### Value

dataSet edited by **reference** with new columns.

### Examples

```
data(messy_adult)  
  
# Compute encoding  
encoding <- build_encoding(messy_adult, cols = c("marital", "occupation"), verbose = TRUE)  
  
# Apply it  
messy_adult <- one_hot_encoder(messy_adult, encoding = encoding, drop = TRUE)  
  
# Apply same encoding to adult  
data(adult)
```

```
adult <- one_hot_encoder(adult, encoding = encoding, drop = TRUE)

# To have encoding as logical (TRUE/FALSE), pass it in type argument
data(adult)
adult <- one_hot_encoder(adult, encoding = encoding, type = "logical", drop = TRUE)
```

---

```
prepareSet
```

```
Preparation pipeline
```

---

## Description

Full pipeline for preparing your dataSet set.

## Usage

```
prepareSet(dataSet, finalForm = "data.table", verbose = TRUE, ...)
```

## Arguments

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
finalForm	"data.table" or "numerical_matrix" (default to data.table)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to TRUE)
...	Additional parameters to tune pipeline (see details)

## Details

Additional arguments are available to tune pipeline:

- `keyName` Name of a column of dataSet according to which dataSet should be aggregated (character)
- `analysisDate` A date at which the dataSet should be aggregated (differences between every date and analysisDate will be computed) (Date)
- `n_unfactor` Number of max value in a facotr, set it to -1 to disable unFactor function. (numeric, default to 53)
- `digits` The number of digits after comma (optional, numeric, if set will perform fastRound)
- `dateFormats` List of format of Dates in dataSet (list of characters)
- `name_separator` character to separate parts of new column names (character, default to ".")
- `functions` Aggregation functions for numeric columns, see aggregateByKey (list of functions names (character))
- `factor_date_type` Aggregation level to factorize date (see generateFactorFromDate) (character, default to "yearmonth")
- `target_col` A target column to perform target encoding, see target\_encode (character)
- `target_encoding_functions` Functions to perform target encoding, see build\_target\_encoding, if target\_col is not given will not do anything, (list, default to "mean")

**Value**

A data.table or a numerical matrix (according to finalForm).

It will perform the following steps:

- Correct set: unfactor factor with many values, id dates and numeric that are hidden in character
- Transform set: compute differences between every date, transform dates into factors, generate features from character..., if key is provided, will perform aggregate according to this key
- Filter set: filter constant, in double or bijection variables. If 'digits' is provided, will round numeric
- Handle NA: will perform fastHandleNa)
- Shape set: will put the result in asked shape (finalForm) with acceptable columns format.

**Examples**

```
# Load ugly set
## Not run:
data(messy_adult)

# Have a look to set
head(messy_adult)

# Compute full pipeline
clean_adult <- prepareSet(messy_adult)

# With a reference date
adult_agg <- prepareSet(messy_adult, analysisDate = as.Date("2017-01-01"))

# Add aggregation by country
adult_agg <- prepareSet(messy_adult, analysisDate = as.Date("2017-01-01"), key = "country")

# With some new aggregation functions
power <- function(x){sum(x^2)}
adult_agg <- prepareSet(messy_adult, analysisDate = as.Date("2017-01-01"), key = "country",
  functions = c("min", "max", "mean", "power"))

## End(Not run)
# "##NOT RUN:" mean that this example hasn't been run on CRAN since its long. But you can ru
```

---

```
remove_percentile_outlier
```

*Percentile outlier filtering*

---

**Description**

Remove outliers based on percentiles.

Only values within nth and 100 -nth percentiles are kept.

**Usage**

```
remove_percentile_outlier(dataSet, cols = "auto", percentile = 1,
  verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of numeric column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform. To transform all numeric columns, set it to "auto". (character, default to "auto")
percentile	percentiles to filter (numeric, default to 1)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

Filtering is made column by column, meaning that extrem values from first element of `cols` are removed, then extrem values from second element of `cols` are removed, ...  
So if filtering is performed on too many column, there is high risk that a lot of rows will be dropped.

**Value**

Same dataset with less rows, edited by **reference**.  
If you don't want to edit by reference please provide `dataSet = copy(dataSet)`.

**Examples**

```
# Given
library(data.table)
dataSet <- data.table(num_col = 1:100)

# When
dataSet <- remove_percentile_outlier(dataSet, cols = "auto", percentile = 1, verbose = TRUE)

# Then extrem value is no longer in set
1 %in% dataSet[["num_col"]] # Is false
2 %in% dataSet[["num_col"]] # Is true
```

---

```
remove_rare_categorical
  Filter rare categoricals
```

---

**Description**

Filter rows that have a rare occurrences

**Usage**

```
remove_rare_categorical(dataSet, cols = "auto", threshold = 0.01,
  verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform. To transform all columns, set it to "auto". (character, default to "auto")
threshold	share of occurrences under which row should be removed (numeric, default to 0.01)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

Filtering is made column by column, meaning that extrem values from first element of cols are removed, then extrem values from second element of cols are removed, ...  
So if filtering is performed on too many column, there is high risk that a lot of rows will be dropped.

**Value**

Same dataset with less rows, edited by **reference**.  
If you don't want to edit by reference please provide `set dataSet = copy (dataSet)`.

**Examples**

```
# Given a set with rare "C"
library(data.table)
dataSet <- data.table(cat_col = c(sample(c("A", "B"), 1000, replace=TRUE), "C"))

# When calling function
dataSet <- remove_rare_categorical(dataSet, cols = "cat_col",
                                   threshold = 0.01, verbose = TRUE)

# Then there are no "C"
unique(dataSet[["cat_col"]])
```

---

remove\_sd\_outlier *Standard deviation outlier filtering*

---

**Description**

Remove outliers based on standard deviation thresholds.  
Only values within  $\text{mean} - \text{sd} * \text{n\_sigmas}$  and  $\text{mean} + \text{sd} * \text{n\_sigmas}$  are kept.

**Usage**

```
remove_sd_outlier(dataSet, cols = "auto", n_sigmas = 3,
                  verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of numeric column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform. To transform all numeric columns, set it to "auto". (character, default to "auto")
n_sigmas	number of times standard deviation is accepted (interger, default to 3)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

Filtering is made column by column, meaning that extrem values from first element of cols are removed, then extrem values from second element of cols are removed, ...  
So if filtering is performed on too many column, there ia high risk that a lot of rows will be dropped.

**Value**

Same dataset with less rows, edited by **reference**.  
If you don't want to edit by reference please provide set `dataSet = copy(dataSet)`.

**Examples**

```
# Given
library(data.table)
col_vals <- runif(1000)
col_mean <- mean(col_vals)
col_sd <- sd(col_vals)
extrem_val <- col_mean + 6 * col_sd
dataSet <- data.table(num_col = c(col_vals, extrem_val))

# When
dataSet <- remove_sd_outlier(dataSet, cols = "auto", n_sigmas = 3, verbose = TRUE)

# Then extrem value is no longer in set
extrem_val %in% dataSet[["num_col"]] # Is false
```

---

sameShape

*Give same shape*

---

**Description**

Transform dataSet into the same shape as referenceSet. Espacially this function will be usefull to make your test set have the same shape as your train set.

**Usage**

```
sameShape(dataSet, referenceSet, verbose = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table to transform
referenceSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to TRUE)

## Details

This function will make sure that `dataSet` and `referenceSet`

- have the same class
- have exactly the same columns
- have columns with exactly the same class
- have factor factor with exactly the same levels

You should always use this function before applying your model on a new data set to make sure that everything will go smoothly. But if this function change a lot of stuff you should have a look to your preparation process, there might be something wrong.

## Value

Return `dataSet` transformed in order to make it have the same shape as `referenceSet`

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# Build a train and a test
data("messy_adult")
data("adult")
train <- messy_adult
test <- adult # So test will have missing columns

# Prepare them
train <- prepareSet(train, verbose = FALSE, key = "country")
test <- prepareSet(test, verbose = FALSE, key = "country")

# Give them the same shape
test <- sameShape(test, train)
# As one can see in log, a lot of small change had to be done.
# This is an extreme case but you get the idea.

## End(Not run)
# "##NOT RUN:" mean that this example hasn't been run on CRAN since its long. But you can ru
```

---

`setAsNumericMatrix` *Numeric matrix preparation for Machine Learning.*

---

### Description

Prepare a numeric matrix from a `data.table`. This matrix is suitable for machine learning purposes, since factors are binarized. It may be sparsed, include an intercept, and drop a reference column for each factor if required (when using `lm()`, for instance)

### Usage

```
setAsNumericMatrix(dataSet, intercept = FALSE, allCols = FALSE,
  sparse = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

<code>dataSet</code>	<code>data.table</code>
<code>intercept</code>	Should a constant column be added? (logical, default to FALSE)
<code>allCols</code>	For each factor, should we create all possible dummies, or should we drop a reference dummy? (logical, default to FALSE)
<code>sparse</code>	Should the resulting matrix be of a (sparse) Matrix class? (logical, default to FALSE)

---

`setColAsCharacter` *Set columns as character*

---

### Description

Set as character a column (or a list of columns) from a `data.table`.

### Usage

```
setColAsCharacter(dataSet, cols = "auto", verbose = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

<code>dataSet</code>	Matrix, <code>data.frame</code> or <code>data.table</code>
<code>cols</code>	List of column(s) name(s) of <code>dataSet</code> to transform into characters. To transform all columns, set it to "auto". (characters, default to "auto")
<code>verbose</code>	Should the function log (logical, default to TRUE)

### Value

`dataSet` (as a `data.table`), with specified columns set as character.



**Examples**

```
# Build a fake data.frame
dataSet <- data.frame(numCol = c(1, 2, 3), factorCol = as.factor(c("a", "b", "c")))

# Set numCol and factorCol as character
dataSet <- setColAsCharacter(dataSet, cols = c("numCol", "factorCol"))
```

---

setColAsDate                      *Set columns as POSIXct*

---

**Description**

Set as POSIXct a character column (or a list of columns) from a data.table.

**Usage**

```
setColAsDate(dataSet, cols = NULL, format = NULL, verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform into dates
format	Date's format (function will be faster if the format is provided) (character or list of character, default to NULL). For timestamps, format need to be provided ("s" or "ms" or second or millisecond timestamps)
verbose	Should the function log (logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

setColAsDate is way faster when format is provided. If you want to identify dates and format automatically, have a look to `identifyDates`.

If input column is a factor, it will be returned as a POSIXct column.

If `cols` is kept to default (NULL) setColAsDate won't do anything.

**Value**

dataSet (as a data.table), with specified columns set as Date. If the transformation generated only NA, the column is set back to its original value.

**Examples**

```

# Lets build a dataSet set
dataSet <- data.frame(ID = 1:5,
                      date1 = c("2015-01-01", "2016-01-01", "2015-09-01", "2015-03-01", "2015-01-01"),
                      date2 = c("2015_01_01", "2016_01_01", "2015_09_01", "2015_03_01", "2015_01_01")
)

# Using setColAsDate for date2
data_transformed <- setColAsDate(dataSet, cols = "date2", format = "%Y_%m_%d")

# Control the results
lapply(data_transformed, class)

# With multiple formats:
data_transformed <- setColAsDate(dataSet, format = list(date1 = "%Y-%m-%d", date2 = "%Y_%m_%d"), cols = "date2")
lapply(data_transformed, class)

# It also works with timestamps
dataSet <- data.frame(time_stamp = c(1483225200, 1485990000, 1488495600))
setColAsDate(dataSet, cols = "time_stamp", format = "s")

```

---

setColAsFactor	<i>Set columns as factor</i>
----------------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

Set columns as factor and control number of unique element, to avoid having too large factors.

**Usage**

```
setColAsFactor(dataSet, cols = "auto", n_levels = 53, verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform into factor. To transform all columns set it to "auto", (characters, default to auto).
n_levels	Max number of levels for factor (integer, default to 53) set it to -1 to disable control.
verbose	Should the function log (logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

Control number of levels will help you to distinguish true categorical columns from just characters that should be handled in another way.

**Value**

dataSet (as a `data.table`), with specified columns set as factor or logical.

**Examples**

```
# Load messy_adult
data("messy_adult")

# we wil change education
messy_adult <- setColAsFactor(messy_adult, cols = "education")

sapply(messy_adult[, .(education)], class)
# education is now a factor
```

---

setColAsNumeric      *Set columns as numeric*

---

**Description**

Set as numeric a character column (or a list of columns) from a `data.table`.

**Usage**

```
setColAsNumeric(dataSet, cols, stripString = FALSE, verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of column(s) name(s) of dataSet to transform into numerics
stripString	should I change "," to "." in the string? (logical, default to FALSE) If set to TRUE, computation will be a bit longer
verbose	Should the function log (logical, default to TRUE)

**Value**

dataSet (as a `data.table`), with specified columns set as numeric.

**Examples**

```
# Build a fake data.table
dataSet <- data.frame(charCol1 = c("1", "2", "3"),
  charCol2 = c("4", "5", "6"))

# Set charCol1 and charCol2 as numeric
dataSet <- setColAsNumeric(dataSet, cols = c("charCol1", "charCol2"))

# Using strip string when spaces or wrong decimal separator is used
dataSet <- data.frame(charCol1 = c("1", "2", "3"),
```

```

charCol2 = c("4, 1", "5, 2", "6, 3")

# Set charCol1 and charCol2 as numeric
setColAsNumeric(dataSet, cols = c("charCol1", "charCol2"))
# generate mistakes
setColAsNumeric(dataSet, cols = c("charCol1", "charCol2"), stripString = TRUE)
# Doesn't generate any mistake (but is a bit slower)

```

---

shapeSet

*Final preparation before ML algorithm*


---

## Description

Prepare a `data.table` by:

- transforming numeric variables into factors whenever they take less than `thresh` unique variables
- transforming characters using `generateFromCharacter`
- transforming logical into binary integers
- dropping constant columns
- Sending the `data.table` to `setAsNumericMatrix` (when `finalForm == "numerical_matrix"`) will then allow you to get a numerical matrix usable by most Machine Learning Algorithms.

## Usage

```

shapeSet(dataSet, finalForm = "data.table", thresh = 10,
         verbose = TRUE)

```

## Arguments

<code>dataSet</code>	Matrix, <code>data.frame</code> or <code>data.table</code>
<code>finalForm</code>	" <code>data.table</code> " or " <code>numerical_matrix</code> " (default to <code>data.table</code> )
<code>thresh</code>	Threshold such that a numerical column is transformed into a factor whenever its number of unique modalities is smaller or equal to <code>thresh</code> (numeric, default to 10)
<code>verbose</code>	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to <code>TRUE</code> )

## Warning

All these changes will happen **by reference**.

---

target_encode	<i>Target encode</i>
---------------	----------------------

---

### Description

Target encoding is the process of replacing a categorical value with the aggregation of the target variable. the target variable. `target_encode` is used to apply this transformations on a data set. Function `build_target_encoding` must be used first to compute aggregations.

### Usage

```
target_encode(dataSet, target_encoding, drop = FALSE, verbose = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

<code>dataSet</code>	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
<code>target_encoding</code>	result of function <code>build_target_encoding</code> (list)
<code>drop</code>	Should <code>col_to_encode</code> be dropped after generation (logical, default to FALSE)
<code>verbose</code>	Should the algorithm talk? (Logical, default to TRUE)

### Value

`dataSet` with new cols of `target_encoding` merged to `dataSet` using `target_encoding` names as merging key. `dataSet` is edited by **reference**.

### Examples

```
# Build a data set
require(data.table)
dataSet <- data.table(student = c("Marie", "Marie", "Pierre", "Louis", "Louis"),
                      grades = c(1, 1, 2, 3, 4))

# Construct encoding
target_encoding <- build_target_encoding(dataSet, cols_to_encode = "student",
                                       target_col = "grades", functions = c("mean", "sum"))

# Apply them
target_encode(dataSet, target_encoding = target_encoding)
```

unFactor

*Unfactor factor with too many values***Description**

To unfactorize all columns that have more than a given amount of various values. This function will be usefull after using some reading functions that put every string as factor.

**Usage**

```
unFactor(dataSet, cols = "auto", n_unfactor = 53, verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
cols	List of column(s) name(s) of dataSet to look into. To check all all columns, set it to "auto". (characters, default to "auto")
n_unfactor	Number of max element in a factor (numeric, default to 53)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk? (logical, default to TRUE)

**Details**

If a factor has (strictly) more than `n_unfactor` values it is unfactored.

It is recommended to use `findAndTransformNumerics` and `findAndTransformDates` after this function.

If `n_unfactor` is set to -1, nothing will be performed.

If there are a lot of column that have been transformed, you might want to look at the documentation of your data reader in order to stop transforming everything into a factor.

**Value**

Same dataSet (as a data.table) with less factor columns.

**Examples**

```
# Let's build a dataSet
dataSet <- data.frame(true_factor = factor(rep(c(1,2), 13)),
                     false_factor = factor(LETTERS))

# Let's un factorize all factor that have more than 5 different values
dataSet <- unFactor(dataSet, n_unfactor = 5)
sapply(dataSet, class)
# Let's un factorize all factor that have more than 5 different values
dataSet <- unFactor(dataSet, n_unfactor = 0)
sapply(dataSet, class)
```

---

whichAreBijection *Identify bijections*

---

### Description

Find all the columns that are bijections of another column.

### Usage

```
whichAreBijection(dataSet, keep_cols = NULL, verbose = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
keep_cols	List of columns not to drop (list of character, default to NULL)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk (logical, default to TRUE)

### Details

Bijection, meaning that there is another column containing the exact same information (but maybe coded differently) for example col1: Men/Women, col2 M/W.

This function is performing search by looking to every couple of columns. It computes numbers of unique elements in each column, and number of unique tuples of values.

Computation is made by exponential search, so that the function is faster.

If `verbose` is `TRUE`, the column logged will be the one returned.

Ex: if column `i` and column `j` (with `j > i`) are bijections it will return `j`, except if `j` is a character then it return `i`.

### Value

A list of index of columns that have an exact bijection in the `dataSet` set.

### Examples

```
# First let's get a data set
data("adult")

# Now let's check which columns are equals
whichAreInDouble(adult)
# It doesn't give any result.

# Let's look of bijections
whichAreBijection(adult)
# Return education_num index because education_num and education which
# contain the same info
```

---

whichAreConstant    *Identify constant columns*

---

## Description

Find all the columns that are constant.

## Usage

```
whichAreConstant(dataSet, keep_cols = NULL, verbose = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
keep_cols	List of columns not to drop (list of character, default to NULL)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk (logical, default to TRUE)

## Details

Algorithm is performing exponential search: it check constancy on row 1 to 10, if it's not constant it stops, if it's constant then on 11 to 100 ...

If you have a lot of columns than aren't constant, this function is way faster than a simple `length(unique())`!  
The larger the dataSet set is, the more interesting it is to use this function.

## Value

List of column's indexes that are constant in the dataSet set.

## Examples

```
# Let's load our dataSet
data("messy_adult")

# Let's try our function
whichAreConstant(messy_adult)
# Indeed it return constant the name of the constant column.
```



---

whichAreIncluded *Identify columns that are included in others*

---

### Description

Find all the columns that don't contain more information than another column. For example if you have a column with an amount and another with the same amount but rounded, the second column is included in the first.

### Usage

```
whichAreIncluded(dataSet, keep_cols = NULL, verbose = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
keep_cols	List of columns not to drop (list of character, default to NULL)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk (logical, default to TRUE)

### Details

This function is performing exponential search and is looking to every couple of columns. Be very careful while using this function:

- if there is an id column, it will say everything is included in the id column;
- the order of columns will influence the result.

For example if you have a column with an amount and another with the same amount but rounded, the second column is included in the first.

And last but not least, with some machine learning algorithm it's not always smart to drop columns even if they don't give more info: the extreme example is the id example.

### Value

A list of index of columns that have an exact duplicate in the dataSet.

### Examples

```
# Load toy data set
require(data.table)
data(messy_adult)

# Reduce set size to save time (you can run it on full set)
messy_adult = messy_adult[1:100, ]

# Check for included columns
whichAreIncluded(messy_adult)
```

```
# Return columns that are also constant, double and bijection
# Let's add a truly just included column
messy_adult$are50OrMore <- messy_adult$age > 50
whichAreIncluded(messy_adult[, .(age, are50OrMore)])

# As one can, see this column that doesn't have additional info than age is spotted.

# But you should be careful, if there is a column id, every column will be dropped:
messy_adult$id = 1:nrow(messy_adult) # build id
whichAreIncluded(messy_adult)
```

---

whichAreInDouble    *Identify double columns*

---

## Description

Find all the columns that are in double.

## Usage

```
whichAreInDouble(dataSet, keep_cols = NULL, verbose = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

dataSet	Matrix, data.frame or data.table
keep_cols	List of columns not to drop (list of character, default to NULL)
verbose	Should the algorithm talk (logical, default to TRUE)

## Details

This function is performing search by looking to every couple of columns. First it compares the first 10 lines of both columns. If they are not equal then the columns aren't identical, else it compares lines 11 to 100; then 101 to 1000... So this function is fast with dataSet set with a large number of lines and a lot of columns that aren't equals.

If verbose is TRUE, the column logged will be the one returned.

## Value

A list of index of columns that have an exact duplicate in the dataSet set. Ex: if column i and column j (with  $j > i$ ) are equal it will return j.

## Examples

```
# First let's build a matrix with 3 columns and a lot of lines, with 1's everywhere
M <- matrix(1, nrow = 1e6, ncol = 3)

# Now let's check which columns are equals
whichAreInDouble(M)
```

```
# It return 2 and 3: you should only keep column 1.

# Let's change the column 2, line 1 to 0. And check again
M[1, 2] <- 0
whichAreInDouble(M)
# It only returns 3

# What about NA? NA vs not NA => not equal
M[1, 2] <- NA
whichAreInDouble(M)
# It only returns 3

# What about NA? Na vs NA => yep it's the same
M[1, 1] <- NA
whichAreInDouble(M)
# It only returns 2
```