

# Package ‘mFilter’

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**Title** Miscellaneous Time Series Filters

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**Description** The mFilter package implements several time series filters useful for smoothing and extracting trend and cyclical components of a time series. The routines are commonly used in economics and finance, however they should also be interest to other areas. Currently, Christiano-Fitzgerald, Baxter-King, Hodrick-Prescott, Butterworth, and trigonometric regression filters are included in the package.

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mFilter-package	<i>Getting started with the mFilter package</i>
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## Description

Getting started with the mFilter package

## Details

This package provides some tools for decomposing time series into trend (smooth) and cyclical (irregular) components. The package implements some commonly used filters such as the Hodrick-Prescott, Baxter-King and Christiano-Fitzgerald filter.

For loading the package, type:

```
library(mFilter)
```

A good place to start learning the package usage is to examine examples for the mFilter function. At the R prompt, write:

```
example("mFilter")
```

For a full list of functions exported by the package, type:

```
ls("package:mFilter")
```

Each exported function has a corresponding man page (some man pages are common to more functions). Display it by typing

```
help(functionName).
```

Almost all filters in this package can be put into the following framework. Given a time series  $\{x_t\}_{t=1}^T$  we are interested in isolating component of  $x_t$ , denoted  $y_t$  with period of oscillations between  $p_l$  and  $p_u$ , where  $2 \leq p_l < p_u < \infty$ .

Consider the following decomposition of the time series

$$x_t = y_t + \bar{x}_t$$

The component  $y_t$  is assumed to have power only in the frequencies in the interval  $\{(a, b) \cup (-a, -b)\} \in (-\pi, \pi)$ .  $a$  and  $b$  are related to  $p_l$  and  $p_u$  by

$$a = \frac{2\pi}{p_u} \quad b = \frac{2\pi}{p_l}$$

If infinite amount of data is available, then we can use the ideal bandpass filter

$$y_t = B(L)x_t$$

where the filter,  $B(L)$ , is given in terms of the lag operator  $L$  and defined as

$$B(L) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} B_j L^j, \quad L^k x_t = x_{t-k}$$

The ideal bandpass filter weights are given by

$$B_j = \frac{\sin(jb) - \sin(ja)}{\pi j}$$

$$B_0 = \frac{b-a}{\pi}$$

The finite sample approximation to the ideal bandpass filter uses the alternative filter

$$y_t = \hat{B}(L)x_t = \sum_{j=-n_1}^{n_2} \hat{B}_{t,j} x_{t+j}$$

Here the weights,  $\hat{B}_{t,j}$ , of the approximation is a solution to

$$\hat{B}_{t,j} = \arg \min E\{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2\}$$

The Christiano-Fitzgerald filter is a finite data approximation to the ideal bandpass filter and minimizes the mean squared error defined in the above equation.

Several band-pass approximation strategies can be selected in the function `cffilter`. The default setting of `cffilter` returns the filtered data  $\hat{y}_t$  associated with the unrestricted optimal filter assuming no unit root, no drift and an iid filter.

If theta is not equal to 1 the series is assumed to follow a moving average process. The moving average weights are given by theta. The default is theta=1 (iid series). If theta=  $(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots)$  then the series is assumed to be

$$x_t = \mu + 1_{root}x_{t-1} + \theta_1 e_t + \theta_2 e_{t-1} + \dots$$

where  $1_{root} = 1$  if the option `root=1` and  $1_{root} = 0$  if the option `root=0`, and  $e_t$  is a white noise.

The Baxter-King filter is a finite data approximation to the ideal bandpass filter with following moving average weights

$$y_t = \hat{B}(L)x_t = \sum_{j=-n}^n \hat{B}_j x_{t+j} = \hat{B}_0 x_t + \sum_{j=1}^n \hat{B}_j (x_{t-j} + x_{t+j})$$

where

$$\hat{B}_j = B_j - \frac{1}{2n+1} \sum_{j=-n}^n B_j$$

The Hodrick-Prescott filter obtains the filter weights  $\hat{B}_j$  as a solution to

$$\hat{B}_j = \arg \min E\{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2\} = \arg \min \left\{ \sum_{t=1}^T (y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2 + \lambda \sum_{t=2}^{T-1} (\hat{y}_{t+1} - 2\hat{y}_t + \hat{y}_{t-1})^2 \right\}$$

The Hodrick-Prescott filter is a finite data approximation with following moving average weights

$$\hat{B}_j = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{4\lambda(1 - \cos(\omega))^2}{1 + 4\lambda(1 - \cos(\omega))^2} e^{i\omega j} d\omega$$

The digital version of the Butterworth highpass filter is described by the rational polynomial expression (the filter's z-transform)

$$\frac{\lambda(1 - z)^n(1 - z^{-1})^n}{(1 + z)^n(1 + z^{-1})^n + \lambda(1 - z)^n(1 - z^{-1})^n}$$

The time domain version can be obtained by substituting  $z$  for the lag operator  $L$ .

Pollock (2000) derives a specialized finite-sample version of the Butterworth filter on the basis of signal extraction theory. Let  $s_t$  be the trend and  $c_t$  cyclical component of  $y_t$ , then these components are extracted as

$$y_t = s_t + c_t = \frac{(1 + L)^n}{(1 - L)^d} \nu_t + (1 - L)^{n-d} \varepsilon_t$$

where  $\nu_t \sim N(0, \sigma_\nu^2)$  and  $\varepsilon_t \sim N(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2)$ .

Let  $T$  be even and define  $n_1 = T/p_u$  and  $n_2 = T/p_l$ . The trigonometric regression filter is based on the following relation

$$y_t = \sum_{j=n_2}^{n_1} \{a_j \cos(\omega_j t) + b_j \sin(\omega_j t)\}$$

where  $a_j$  and  $b_j$  are the coefficients obtained by regressing  $x_t$  on the indicated sine and cosine functions. Specifically,

$$a_j = \frac{T}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \cos(\omega_j t) x_t, \quad \text{for } j = 1, \dots, T/2 - 1$$

$$a_j = \frac{T}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \cos(\pi t) x_t, \quad \text{for } j = T/2$$

and

$$b_j = \frac{T}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \sin(\omega_j t) x_t, \quad \text{for } j = 1, \dots, T/2 - 1$$

$$b_j = \frac{T}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \sin(\pi t) x_t, \quad \text{for } j = T/2$$

Let  $\hat{B}(L)x_t$  be the trigonometric regression filter. It can be showed that  $\hat{B}(1) = 0$ , so that  $\hat{B}(L)$  has a unit root for  $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ . Also, when  $\hat{B}(L)$  is symmetric, it has a second unit root in the middle of the data for  $t$ . Therefore it is important to drift adjust data before it is filtered with a trigonometric regression filter.

If `drift=TRUE` the drift adjusted series is obtained as

$$\tilde{x}_t = x_t - t \left( \frac{x_T - x_1}{T - 1} \right), \quad t = 0, 1, \dots, T - 1$$

where  $\tilde{x}_t$  is the undrifted series.

#### Author(s)

Mehmet Balcilar, <mehmet@mbalcilar.net>

## References

- M. Baxter and R.G. King. Measuring business cycles: Approximate bandpass filters. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 81(4):575-93, 1999.
- L. Christiano and T.J. Fitzgerald. The bandpass filter. *International Economic Review*, 44(2):435-65, 2003.
- J. D. Hamilton. *Time series analysis*. Princeton, 1994.
- R.J. Hodrick and E.C. Prescott. Postwar US business cycles: an empirical investigation. *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*, 29(1):1-16, 1997.
- R.G. King and S.T. Rebelo. Low frequency filtering and real business cycles. *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, 17(1-2):207-31, 1993.
- D.S.G. Pollock. Trend estimation and de-trending via rational square-wave filters. *Journal of Econometrics*, 99:317-334, 2000.

## See Also

[mFilter-methods](#) for listing all currently available `mFilter` methods. For help on common interface function `mFilter`, [mFilter](#). For individual filter function usage, [bwfilter](#), [bkfilter](#), [cfilter](#), [hpfilter](#), [trfilter](#).

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<code>bkfilter</code>	<i>Baxter-King filter of a time series</i>
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## Description

This function implements the Baxter-King approximation to the band pass filter for a time series. The function computes cyclical and trend components of the time series using band-pass approximation for fixed and variable length filters.

## Usage

```
bkfilter(x,pl=NULL,pu=NULL,nfix=NULL,type=c("fixed","variable"),drift=FALSE)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	a regular time series
<code>type</code>	character, indicating the filter type, "fixed", for the fixed length Baxter-King filter (default), "variable", for the variable length Baxter-King filter.
<code>pl</code>	integer. minimum period of oscillation of desired component ( $pl \leq 2$ ).
<code>pu</code>	integer. maximum period of oscillation of desired component ( $2 \leq pl < pu < \infty$ ).
<code>drift</code>	logical, FALSE if no drift in time series (default), TRUE if drift in time series.
<code>nfix</code>	sets fixed lead/lag length or order of the filter. The <code>nfix</code> option sets the order of the filter by $2 * nfix + 1$ . The default is $\text{frequency}(x) * 3$ .

### Details

Almost all filters in this package can be put into the following framework. Given a time series  $\{x_t\}_{t=1}^T$  we are interested in isolating component of  $x_t$ , denoted  $y_t$  with period of oscillations between  $p_l$  and  $p_u$ , where  $2 \leq p_l < p_u < \infty$ .

Consider the following decomposition of the time series

$$x_t = y_t + \bar{x}_t$$

The component  $y_t$  is assumed to have power only in the frequencies in the interval  $\{(a, b) \cup (-a, -b)\} \in (-\pi, \pi)$ .  $a$  and  $b$  are related to  $p_l$  and  $p_u$  by

$$a = \frac{2\pi}{p_u} \quad b = \frac{2\pi}{p_l}$$

If infinite amount of data is available, then we can use the ideal bandpass filter

$$y_t = B(L)x_t$$

where the filter,  $B(L)$ , is given in terms of the lag operator  $L$  and defined as

$$B(L) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} B_j L^j, \quad L^k x_t = x_{t-k}$$

The ideal bandpass filter weights are given by

$$B_j = \frac{\sin(jb) - \sin(ja)}{\pi j}$$

$$B_0 = \frac{b - a}{\pi}$$

The Baxter-King filter is a finite data approximation to the ideal bandpass filter with following moving average weights

$$y_t = \hat{B}(L)x_t = \sum_{j=-n}^n \hat{B}_j x_{t+j} = \hat{B}_0 x_t + \sum_{j=1}^n \hat{B}_j (x_{t-j} + x_{t+j})$$

where

$$\hat{B}_j = B_j - \frac{1}{2n+1} \sum_{j=-n}^n B_j$$

If `drift=TRUE` the drift adjusted series is obtained

$$\tilde{x}_t = x_t - t \left( \frac{x_T - x_1}{T - 1} \right), \quad t = 0, 1, \dots, T - 1$$

where  $\tilde{x}_t$  is the undrifted series.

### Value

A "mFilter" object (see [mFilter](#)).

**Author(s)**

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**References**

M. Baxter and R.G. King. Measuring business cycles: Approximate bandpass filters. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 81(4):575-93, 1999.

L. Christiano and T.J. Fitzgerald. The bandpass filter. *International Economic Review*, 44(2):435-65, 2003.

J. D. Hamilton. *Time series analysis*. Princeton, 1994.

R.J. Hodrick and E.C. Prescott. Postwar US business cycles: an empirical investigation. *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*, 29(1):1-16, 1997.

R.G. King and S.T. Rebelo. Low frequency filtering and real business cycles. *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, 17(1-2):207-31, 1993.

D.S.G. Pollock. Trend estimation and de-trending via rational square-wave filters. *Journal of Econometrics*, 99:317-334, 2000.

**See Also**

[mFilter](#), [bwfilter](#), [cfilter](#), [hpfilter](#), [trfilter](#)

**Examples**

```
## library(mFilter)

data(unemp)

opar <- par(no.readonly=TRUE)

unemp.bk <- bkfilter(unemp)
plot(unemp.bk)
unemp.bk1 <- bkfilter(unemp, drift=TRUE)
unemp.bk2 <- bkfilter(unemp, pl=8,pu=40,drift=TRUE)
unemp.bk3 <- bkfilter(unemp, pl=2,pu=60,drift=TRUE)
unemp.bk4 <- bkfilter(unemp, pl=2,pu=40,drift=TRUE)

par(mfrow=c(2,1),mar=c(3,3,2,1),cex=.8)
plot(unemp.bk1$x,
     main="Baxter-King filter of unemployment: Trend, drift=TRUE",
     col=1, ylab="")
lines(unemp.bk1$trend,col=2)
lines(unemp.bk2$trend,col=3)
lines(unemp.bk3$trend,col=4)
lines(unemp.bk4$trend,col=5)
legend("topleft",legend=c("series", "pl=2, pu=32", "pl=8, pu=40",
                          "pl=2, pu=60", "pl=2, pu=40"), col=1:5, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

plot(unemp.bk1$cycle,
     main="Baxter-King filter of unemployment: Cycle,drift=TRUE",
```

```

        col=2, ylab="", ylim=range(unemp.bk3$cycle,na.rm=TRUE))
lines(unemp.bk2$cycle,col=3)
lines(unemp.bk3$cycle,col=4)
lines(unemp.bk4$cycle,col=5)
## legend("topleft",legend=c("p1=2, pu=32", "p1=8, pu=40", "p1=2, pu=60",
## "p1=2, pu=40"), col=1:5, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

par(opar)

```

---

 bwfilter

*Butterworth filter of a time series*


---

### Description

Filters a time series using the Butterworth square-wave highpass filter described in Pollock (2000).

### Usage

```
bwfilter(x, freq=NULL, nfix=NULL, drift=FALSE)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	a regular time series
<code>nfix</code>	sets the order of the filter. The default is <code>nfix=2</code> , when <code>nfix=NULL</code> .
<code>freq</code>	integer, the cut-off frequency of the Butterworth filter. The default is <code>trunc(2.5*frequency(x))</code> .
<code>drift</code>	logical, FALSE if no drift in time series (default), TRUE if drift in time series.

### Details

Almost all filters in this package can be put into the following framework. Given a time series  $\{x_t\}_{t=1}^T$  we are interested in isolating component of  $x_t$ , denoted  $y_t$  with period of oscillations between  $p_l$  and  $p_u$ , where  $2 \leq p_l < p_u < \infty$ .

Consider the following decomposition of the time series

$$x_t = y_t + \bar{x}_t$$

The component  $y_t$  is assumed to have power only in the frequencies in the interval  $\{(a, b) \cup (-a, -b)\} \in (-\pi, \pi)$ .  $a$  and  $b$  are related to  $p_l$  and  $p_u$  by

$$a = \frac{2\pi}{p_u} \quad b = \frac{2\pi}{p_l}$$

If infinite amount of data is available, then we can use the ideal bandpass filter

$$y_t = B(L)x_t$$



where the filter,  $B(L)$ , is given in terms of the lag operator  $L$  and defined as

$$B(L) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} B_j L^j, \quad L^k x_t = x_{t-k}$$

The ideal bandpass filter weights are given by

$$B_j = \frac{\sin(jb) - \sin(ja)}{\pi j}$$

$$B_0 = \frac{b - a}{\pi}$$

The digital version of the Butterworth highpass filter is described by the rational polynomial expression (the filter's z-transform)

$$\frac{\lambda(1 - z)^n(1 - z^{-1})^n}{(1 + z)^n(1 + z^{-1})^n + \lambda(1 - z)^n(1 - z^{-1})^n}$$

The time domain version can be obtained by substituting  $z$  for the lag operator  $L$ .

Pollock derives a specialized finite-sample version of the Butterworth filter on the basis of signal extraction theory. Let  $s_t$  be the trend and  $c_t$  cyclical component of  $y_t$ , then these components are extracted as

$$y_t = s_t + c_t = \frac{(1 + L)^n}{(1 - L)^d} \nu_t + (1 - L)^{n-d} \varepsilon_t$$

where  $\nu_t \sim N(0, \sigma_\nu^2)$  and  $\varepsilon_t \sim N(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2)$ .

If `drift=TRUE` the drift adjusted series is obtained as

$$\tilde{x}_t = x_t - t \left( \frac{x_T - x_1}{T - 1} \right), \quad t = 0, 1, \dots, T - 1$$

where  $\tilde{x}_t$  is the undrifted series.

## Value

A "mFilter" object (see [mFilter](#)).

## Author(s)

Mehmet Balcilar, <mehmet@mbalcilar.net>

## References

- M. Baxter and R.G. King. Measuring business cycles: Approximate bandpass filters. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 81(4):575-93, 1999.
- L. Christiano and T.J. Fitzgerald. The bandpass filter. *International Economic Review*, 44(2):435-65, 2003.
- J. D. Hamilton. *Time series analysis*. Princeton, 1994.
- R.J. Hodrick and E.C. Prescott. Postwar US business cycles: an empirical investigation. *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*, 29(1):1-16, 1997.

R.G. King and S.T. Rebelo. Low frequency filtering and real business cycles. *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, 17(1-2):207-31, 1993.

D.S.G. Pollock. Trend estimation and de-trending via rational square-wave filters. *Journal of Econometrics*, 99:317-334, 2000.

### See Also

[mFilter](#), [hpfilter](#), [cfilter](#), [bkfilter](#), [trfilter](#)

### Examples

```
## library(mFilter)

data(unemp)

opar <- par(no.readonly=TRUE)

unemp.bw <- bwfilter(unemp)
plot(unemp.bw)
unemp.bw1 <- bwfilter(unemp, drift=TRUE)
unemp.bw2 <- bwfilter(unemp, freq=8,drift=TRUE)
unemp.bw3 <- bwfilter(unemp, freq=10, nfix=3, drift=TRUE)
unemp.bw4 <- bwfilter(unemp, freq=10, nfix=4, drift=TRUE)

par(mfrow=c(2,1),mar=c(3,3,2,1),cex=.8)
plot(unemp.bw1$x,
     main="Butterworth filter of unemployment: Trend,
     drift=TRUE",col=1, ylab="")
lines(unemp.bw1$trend,col=2)
lines(unemp.bw2$trend,col=3)
lines(unemp.bw3$trend,col=4)
lines(unemp.bw4$trend,col=5)
legend("topleft",legend=c("series", "freq=10, nfix=2",
                          "freq=8, nfix=2", "freq=10, nfix=3", "freq=10, nfix=4"),
      col=1:5, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

plot(unemp.bw1$cycle,
     main="Butterworth filter of unemployment: Cycle,drift=TRUE",
     col=2, ylab="", ylim=range(unemp.bw3$cycle,na.rm=TRUE))
lines(unemp.bw2$cycle,col=3)
lines(unemp.bw3$cycle,col=4)
lines(unemp.bw4$cycle,col=5)
## legend("topleft",legend=c("series", "freq=10, nfix=2", "freq=8,
## nfix=2", "freq## =10, nfix=3", "freq=10, nfix=4"), col=1:5,
## lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

par(opar)
```

---

cfilter *Christiano-Fitzgerald filter of a time series*

---

### Description

This function implements the Christiano-Fitzgerald approximation to the ideal band pass filter for a time series. The function computes cyclical and trend components of the time series using several band-pass approximation strategies.

### Usage

```
cfilter(x,pl=NULL,pu=NULL,root=FALSE,drift=FALSE,
        type=c("asymmetric","symmetric","fixed","baxter-king","trigonometric"),
        nfix=NULL,theta=1)
```

### Arguments

x	a regular time series.
type	the filter type, "asymmetric", asymmetric Christiano-Fitzgerald filter (default), "symmetric", symmetric Christiano-Fitzgerald filter "fixed", fixed length Christiano-Fitzgerald filter, "baxter-king", Baxter-King fixed length symmetric filter, "trigonometric", trigonometric regression filter.
pl	minimum period of oscillation of desired component ( $pl \leq 2$ ).
pu	maximum period of oscillation of desired component ( $2 \leq pl < pu < \infty$ ).
root	logical, FALSE if no unit root in time series (default), TRUE if unit root in time series. The root option has no effect if type is "baxter-king" or "trigonometric".
drift	logical, FALSE if no drift in time series (default), TRUE if drift in time series.
nfix	sets fixed lead/lag length or order of the filter with "baxter-king" and "fixed". The nfix option sets the order of the filter by $2*nfix+1$ . The default is $nfix=1$ .
theta	moving average coefficients for time series model: $x(t) = \mu + root*x(t-1) + theta(1)*e(t) + theta(2)*e(t-1) + \dots$ , where $e(t)$ is a white noise.

### Details

Almost all filters in this package can be put into the following framework. Given a time series  $\{x_t\}_{t=1}^T$  we are interested in isolating component of  $x_t$ , denoted  $y_t$  with period of oscillations between  $p_l$  and  $p_u$ , where  $2 \leq p_l < p_u < \infty$ .

Consider the following decomposition of the time series

$$x_t = y_t + \bar{x}_t$$

The component  $y_t$  is assumed to have power only in the frequencies in the interval  $\{(a, b) \cup (-a, -b)\} \in (-\pi, \pi)$ .  $a$  and  $b$  are related to  $p_l$  and  $p_u$  by

$$a = \frac{2\pi}{p_u} \quad b = \frac{2\pi}{p_l}$$

If infinite amount of data is available, then we can use the ideal bandpass filter

$$y_t = B(L)x_t$$

where the filter,  $B(L)$ , is given in terms of the lag operator  $L$  and defined as

$$B(L) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} B_j L^j, \quad L^k x_t = x_{t-k}$$

The ideal bandpass filter weights are given by

$$B_j = \frac{\sin(jb) - \sin(ja)}{\pi j}$$

$$B_0 = \frac{b - a}{\pi}$$

The finite sample approximation to the ideal bandpass filter uses the alternative filter

$$y_t = \hat{B}(L)x_t = \sum_{j=-n_1}^{n_2} \hat{B}_{t,j} x_{t+j}$$

Here the weights,  $\hat{B}_{t,j}$ , of the approximation is a solution to

$$\hat{B}_{t,j} = \arg \min E\{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2\}$$

The Christiano-Fitzgerald filter is a finite data approximation to the ideal bandpass filter and minimizes the mean squared error defined in the above equation.

Several band-pass approximation strategies can be selected in the function `cfilter`. The default setting of `cfilter` returns the filtered data  $\hat{y}_t$  associated with the unrestricted optimal filter assuming no unit root, no drift and an iid filter.

If `theta` is not equal to 1 the series is assumed to follow a moving average process. The moving average weights are given by `theta`. The default is `theta=1` (iid series). If `theta=`  $(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots)$  then the series is assumed to be

$$x_t = \mu + 1_{root}x_{t-1} + \theta_1 e_t + \theta_2 e_{t-1} + \dots$$

where  $1_{root} = 1$  if the option `root=1` and  $1_{root} = 0$  if the option `root=0`, and  $e_t$  is a white noise.

If `drift=TRUE` the drift adjusted series is obtained as

$$\tilde{x}_t = x_t - t \left( \frac{x_T - x_1}{T - 1} \right), \quad t = 0, 1, \dots, T - 1$$

where  $\tilde{x}_t$  is the undrifted series.

### Value

A "mFilter" object (see `mFilter`).

### Author(s)

Mehmet Balcilar, <mehmet@mbalcilar.net>

## References

- M. Baxter and R.G. King. Measuring business cycles: Approximate bandpass filters. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 81(4):575-93, 1999.
- L. Christiano and T.J. Fitzgerald. The bandpass filter. *International Economic Review*, 44(2):435-65, 2003.
- J. D. Hamilton. *Time series analysis*. Princeton, 1994.
- R.J. Hodrick and E.C. Prescott. Postwar US business cycles: an empirical investigation. *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*, 29(1):1-16, 1997.
- R.G. King and S.T. Rebelo. Low frequency filtering and real business cycles. *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, 17(1-2):207-31, 1993.
- D.S.G. Pollock. Trend estimation and de-trending via rational square-wave filters. *Journal of Econometrics*, 99:317-334, 2000.

## See Also

[mFilter](#), [bwfilter](#), [bkfilter](#), [hpfilter](#), [trfilter](#)

## Examples

```
## library(mFilter)

data(unemp)

opar <- par(no.readonly=TRUE)

unemp.cf <- cfilter(unemp)
plot(unemp.cf)
unemp.cf1 <- cfilter(unemp, drift=TRUE, root=TRUE)
unemp.cf2 <- cfilter(unemp, pl=8,pu=40,drift=TRUE, root=TRUE)
unemp.cf3 <- cfilter(unemp, pl=2,pu=60,drift=TRUE, root=TRUE)
unemp.cf4 <- cfilter(unemp, pl=2,pu=40,drift=TRUE, root=TRUE,theta=c(.1,.4))

par(mfrow=c(2,1),mar=c(3,3,2,1),cex=.8)
plot(unemp.cf1$x,
main="Christiano-Fitzgerald filter of unemployment: Trend \n root=TRUE,drift=TRUE",
col=1, ylab="")
lines(unemp.cf1$trend,col=2)
lines(unemp.cf2$trend,col=3)
lines(unemp.cf3$trend,col=4)
lines(unemp.cf4$trend,col=5)
legend("topleft",legend=c("series", "pl=2, pu=32", "pl=8, pu=40", "pl=2, pu=60",
"pl=2, pu=40, theta=.1,.4"), col=1:5, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

plot(unemp.cf1$cycle,
main="Christiano-Fitzgerald filter of unemployment: Cycle \n root=TRUE,drift=TRUE",
col=2, ylab="", ylim=range(unemp.cf3$cycle))
lines(unemp.cf2$cycle,col=3)
lines(unemp.cf3$cycle,col=4)
lines(unemp.cf4$cycle,col=5)
```

```
## legend("topleft",legend=c("p1=2, pu=32", "p1=8, pu=40", "p1=2, pu=60",
## "p1=2, pu=40, theta=.1,.4"), col=2:5, lty=rep(1,4), ncol=2)

par(opar)
```

---

 hpfilter

*Hodrick-Prescott filter of a time series*


---

### Description

This function implements the Hodrick-Prescott for estimating cyclical and trend component of a time series. The function computes cyclical and trend components of the time series using a frequency cut-off or smoothness parameter.

### Usage

```
hpfilter(x, freq=NULL, type=c("lambda", "frequency"), drift=FALSE)
```

### Arguments

x	a regular time series.
type	character, indicating the filter type, "lambda", for the filter that uses smoothness penalty parameter of the Hodrick-Prescott filter (default), "frequency", for the filter that uses a frequency cut-off type Hodrick-Prescott filter. These are related by $lambda = (2 * sin(pi / frequency))^{-4}$ .
freq	integer, if type="lambda" then freq is the smoothing parameter (lambda) of the Hodrick-Prescott filter, if type="frequency" then freq is the cut-off frequency of the Hodrick-Prescott filter.
drift	logical, FALSE if no drift in time series (default), TRUE if drift in time series.

### Details

Almost all filters in this package can be put into the following framework. Given a time series  $\{x_t\}_{t=1}^T$  we are interested in isolating component of  $x_t$ , denoted  $y_t$  with period of oscillations between  $p_l$  and  $p_u$ , where  $2 \leq p_l < p_u < \infty$ .

Consider the following decomposition of the time series

$$x_t = y_t + \bar{x}_t$$

The component  $y_t$  is assumed to have power only in the frequencies in the interval  $\{(a, b) \cup (-a, -b)\} \in (-\pi, \pi)$ .  $a$  and  $b$  are related to  $p_l$  and  $p_u$  by

$$a = \frac{2\pi}{p_u} \quad b = \frac{2\pi}{p_l}$$

If infinite amount of data is available, then we can use the ideal bandpass filter

$$y_t = B(L)x_t$$

where the filter,  $B(L)$ , is given in terms of the lag operator  $L$  and defined as

$$B(L) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} B_j L^j, \quad L^k x_t = x_{t-k}$$

The ideal bandpass filter weights are given by

$$B_j = \frac{\sin(jb) - \sin(ja)}{\pi j}$$

$$B_0 = \frac{b - a}{\pi}$$

The Hodrick-Prescott filter obtains the filter weights  $\hat{B}_j$  as a solution to

$$\hat{B}_j = \arg \min E\{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2\} = \arg \min \left\{ \sum_{t=1}^T (y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2 + \lambda \sum_{t=2}^{T-1} (\hat{y}_{t+1} - 2\hat{y}_t + \hat{y}_{t-1})^2 \right\}$$

The Hodrick-Prescott filter is a finite data approximation with following moving average weights

$$\hat{B}_j = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{4\lambda(1 - \cos(\omega))^2}{1 + 4\lambda(1 - \cos(\omega))^2} e^{i\omega j} d\omega$$

If drift=TRUE the drift adjusted series is obtained as

$$\tilde{x}_t = x_t - t \left( \frac{x_T - x_1}{T - 1} \right), \quad t = 0, 1, \dots, T - 1$$

where  $\tilde{x}_t$  is the undrifted series.

### Value

A "mFilter" object (see [mFilter](#)).

### Author(s)

Mehmet Balcilar, <mehmet@mbalcilar.net>

### References

- M. Baxter and R.G. King. Measuring business cycles: Approximate bandpass filters. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 81(4):575-93, 1999.
- L. Christiano and T.J. Fitzgerald. The bandpass filter. *International Economic Review*, 44(2):435-65, 2003.
- J. D. Hamilton. *Time series analysis*. Princeton, 1994.
- R.J. Hodrick and E.C. Prescott. Postwar US business cycles: an empirical investigation. *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*, 29(1):1-16, 1997.
- R.G. King and S.T. Rebelo. Low frequency filtering and real business cycles. *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, 17(1-2):207-31, 1993.
- D.S.G. Pollock. Trend estimation and de-trending via rational square-wave filters. *Journal of Econometrics*, 99:317-334, 2000.

**See Also**

[mFilter](#), [bwfilter](#), [cfilter](#), [bkfilter](#), [trfilter](#)

**Examples**

```
## library(mFilter)

data(unemp)

opar <- par(no.readonly=TRUE)

unemp.hp <- hpfilter(unemp)
plot(unemp.hp)
unemp.hp1 <- hpfilter(unemp, drift=TRUE)
unemp.hp2 <- hpfilter(unemp, freq=800, drift=TRUE)
unemp.hp3 <- hpfilter(unemp, freq=12,type="frequency",drift=TRUE)
unemp.hp4 <- hpfilter(unemp, freq=52,type="frequency",drift=TRUE)

par(mfrow=c(2,1),mar=c(3,3,2,1),cex=.8)
plot(unemp.hp1$x, ylim=c(2,13),
     main="Hodrick-Prescott filter of unemployment: Trend, drift=TRUE",
     col=1, ylab="")
lines(unemp.hp1$trend,col=2)
lines(unemp.hp2$trend,col=3)
lines(unemp.hp3$trend,col=4)
lines(unemp.hp4$trend,col=5)
legend("topleft",legend=c("series", "lambda=1600", "lambda=800",
                          "freq=12", "freq=52"), col=1:5, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

plot(unemp.hp1$cycle,
     main="Hodrick-Prescott filter of unemployment: Cycle,drift=TRUE",
     col=2, ylab="", ylim=range(unemp.hp4$cycle,na.rm=TRUE))
lines(unemp.hp2$cycle,col=3)
lines(unemp.hp3$cycle,col=4)
lines(unemp.hp4$cycle,col=5)
## legend("topleft",legend=c("lambda=1600", "lambda=800",
## "freq=12", "freq=52"), col=1:5, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

par(opar)
```

---

mFilter

*Decomposition of a time series into trend and cyclical components using various filters*

---

**Description**

mFilter is a generic function for filtering time series data. The function invokes particular *filters* which depend on filter type specified via its argument *filter*. The filters implemented in the package mFilter package are useful for smoothing, and estimating trend and cyclical components. Some



of these filters are commonly used in economics and finance for estimating cyclical component of time series.

The `mFilter` currently applies only to time series objects. However a default method is available and should work for any `numeric` or `vector` object.

### Usage

```
mFilter(x, ...)
## Default S3 method:
mFilter(x, ...)
## S3 method for class 'ts'
mFilter(x, filter=c("HP", "BK", "CF", "BW", "TR"), ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	a regular a time series.
<code>filter</code>	filter type, the filter types are "HP" (Hodrick-Prescott), "BK" (Baxter-King), "CF" (Christiano-Fitzgerald), "BW" (Butterworth), and "TR" (trigonometric regression).
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments to pass to the relevant filter functions. These are passed to <code>hpfilter</code> , <code>bkfilter</code> , <code>cffilter</code> , <code>bwfilter</code> , and <code>trfilter</code> , respectively for the "HP", "BK", "CF", "BW", and "TR" filters.

### Details

The default behaviour is to apply the default filter to `ts` objects.

### Value

An object of class "mFilter".

The function `summary` is used to obtain and print a summary of the results, while the function `plot` produces a plot of the original series, the trend, and the cyclical components. The function `print` is also available for displaying estimation results.

The generic accessor functions `fitted` and `residuals` extract estimated trend and cyclical components of an "mFilter" object, respectively.

An object of class "mFilter" is a list containing at least the following elements:

<code>cycle</code>	Estimated cyclical (irregular) component of the series.
<code>trend</code>	Estimated trend (smooth) component of the series.
<code>fmatrix</code>	The filter matrix applied to original series.
<code>method</code>	The method, if available, for the filter type applied.
<code>type</code>	The filter type applied to the series.
<code>call</code>	Call to the function.
<code>title</code>	The title for displaying results.
<code>xname</code>	Name of the series passed to <code>mFilter</code> for filtering.

x The original or drift adjusted, if `drift=TRUE`, time series passed to the `mFilter`.

Following additional elements may exist depending on the type of filter applied:

<code>nfix</code>	Length or order of the fixed length filters.
<code>pl</code>	Minimum period of oscillation of desired component ( $2 \leq pl$ ).
<code>pu</code>	Maximum period of oscillation of desired component ( $2 \leq pl < pu < \infty$ ).
<code>lambda</code>	Lambda (smoothness) parameter of the HP filter.
<code>root</code>	Whether time series has a unit root, TRUE or FALSE (default).
<code>drift</code>	Whether time series has drift, TRUE or FALSE (default).
<code>theta</code>	MA coefficients for time series model, used in "CF" filter.

### Author(s)

Mehmet Balcilar, <mehmet@mbalcilar.net>

### See Also

Other functions which return objects of class "mFilter" are [bkfilter](#), [bwfilter](#), [cfilter](#), [bkfilter](#), [trfilter](#). Following functions apply the relevant methods to an object of the "mFilter" class: [print.mFilter](#), [summary.mFilter](#), [plot.mFilter](#), [fitted.mFilter](#), [residuals.mFilter](#).

### Examples

```
## library(mFilter)

data(unemp)

opar <- par(no.readonly=TRUE)

unemp.hp <- mFilter(unemp,filter="HP") # Hodrick-Prescott filter
print(unemp.hp)
summary(unemp.hp)
residuals(unemp.hp)
fitted(unemp.hp)
plot(unemp.hp)

unemp.bk <- mFilter(unemp,filter="BK") # Baxter-King filter
unemp.cf <- mFilter(unemp,filter="CF") # Christiano-Fitzgerald filter
unemp.bw <- mFilter(unemp,filter="BW") # Butterworth filter
unemp.tr <- mFilter(unemp,filter="TR") # Trigonometric regression filter

par(mfrow=c(2,1),mar=c(3,3,2,1),cex=.8)
plot(unemp,main="Unemployment Series & Estimated Trend", col=1, ylab="")
lines(unemp.hp$trend,col=2)
lines(unemp.bk$trend,col=3)
lines(unemp.cf$trend,col=4)
lines(unemp.bw$trend,col=5)
lines(unemp.tr$trend,col=6)
```

```

legend("topleft", legend=c("series", "HP", "BK", "CF", "BW", "TR"),
      col=1:6, lty=rep(1,6), ncol=2)

plot(unemp.hp$cycle, main="Estimated Cyclical Component",
     ylim=c(-2, 2.5), col=2, ylab="")
lines(unemp.bk$cycle, col=3)
lines(unemp.cf$cycle, col=4)
lines(unemp.bw$cycle, col=5)
lines(unemp.tr$cycle, col=6)
## legend("topleft", legend=c("HP", "BK", "CF", "BW", "TR"),
## col=2:6, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=2)

unemp.cf1 <- mFilter(unemp, filter="CF", drift=TRUE, root=TRUE)
unemp.cf2 <- mFilter(unemp, filter="CF", pl=8, pu=40, drift=TRUE, root=TRUE)
unemp.cf3 <- mFilter(unemp, filter="CF", pl=2, pu=60, drift=TRUE, root=TRUE)
unemp.cf4 <- mFilter(unemp, filter="CF", pl=2, pu=40, drift=TRUE,
                    root=TRUE, theta=c(.1, .4))

plot(unemp,
     main="Christiano-Fitzgerald filter of unemployment: Trend \n root=TRUE, drift=TRUE",
     col=1, ylab="")
lines(unemp.cf1$trend, col=2)
lines(unemp.cf2$trend, col=3)
lines(unemp.cf3$trend, col=4)
lines(unemp.cf4$trend, col=5)
legend("topleft", legend=c("series", "pl=2, pu=32", "pl=8, pu=40",
                          "pl=2, pu=60", "pl=2, pu=40, theta=.1, .4"), col=1:5, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

plot(unemp.cf1$cycle,
     main="Christiano-Fitzgerald filter of unemployment: Cycle \n root=TRUE, drift=TRUE",
     col=2, ylab="", ylim=range(unemp.cf3$cycle))
lines(unemp.cf2$cycle, col=3)
lines(unemp.cf3$cycle, col=4)
lines(unemp.cf4$cycle, col=5)
## legend("topleft", legend=c("pl=2, pu=32", "pl=8, pu=40", "pl=2, pu=60",
## "pl=2, pu=40, theta=.1, .4"), col=2:5, lty=rep(1,4), ncol=2)

par(opar)

```

---

mFilter-methods

*Methods for mFilter objects*


---

## Description

Common methods for all `mFilter` objects usually created by the `mFilter` function.

## Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'mFilter'
residuals(object, ...)

```

```
## S3 method for class 'mFilter'
fitted(object, ...)
## S3 method for class 'mFilter'
print(x, digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3), ...)
## S3 method for class 'mFilter'
plot(x, reference.grid = TRUE, col = "steelblue", ask=interactive(), ...)
## S3 method for class 'mFilter'
summary(object, digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3), ...)
```

### Arguments

object, x      an object of class "mFilter"; usually, a result of a call to [mFilter](#).

digits        number of digits used for printing (see [print](#)).

col            color of the graph (see [plot](#)).

ask            logical. if TRUE the user is asked for input before a new graph drawn in an interactive session (see [interactive](#)).

reference.grid logical. if true grid lines are drawn.

...            further arguments passed to or from other methods.

### Value

for residuals and fitted a univariate time series; for plot, print, and summary the "mFilter" object.

### Author(s)

Mehmet Balcilar, <mehmet@mbalcilar.net>

### See Also

[mFilter](#) for the function that returns an objects of class "mFilter". Other functions which return objects of class "mFilter" are [bkfilter](#), [bwfilter](#), [cffilter](#), [bkfilter](#), [trfilter](#).

### Examples

```
## library(mFilter)

data(unemp)

opar <- par(no.readonly=TRUE)

unemp.hp <- mFilter(unemp,filter="HP") # Hodrick-Prescott filter
print(unemp.hp)
summary(unemp.hp)
residuals(unemp.hp)
fitted(unemp.hp)
plot(unemp.hp)

par(opar)
```

---

trfilter	<i>Trigonometric regression filter of a time series</i>
----------	---

---

### Description

This function uses trigonometric regression filter for estimating cyclical and trend components of a time series. The function computes cyclical and trend components of the time series using a lower and upper cut-off frequency in the spirit of a band pass filter.

### Usage

```
trfilter(x,pl=NULL,pu=NULL,drift=FALSE)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	a regular time series.
<code>pl</code>	integer. minimum period of oscillation of desired component ( $pl \leq 2$ ).
<code>pu</code>	integer. maximum period of oscillation of desired component ( $2 \leq pl < pu < \infty$ ).
<code>drift</code>	logical, FALSE if no drift in time series (default), TRUE if drift in time series.

### Details

Almost all filters in this package can be put into the following framework. Given a time series  $\{x_t\}_{t=1}^T$  we are interested in isolating component of  $x_t$ , denoted  $y_t$  with period of oscillations between  $p_l$  and  $p_u$ , where  $2 \leq p_l < p_u < \infty$ .

Consider the following decomposition of the time series

$$x_t = y_t + \bar{x}_t$$

The component  $y_t$  is assumed to have power only in the frequencies in the interval  $\{(a, b) \cup (-a, -b)\} \in (-\pi, \pi)$ .  $a$  and  $b$  are related to  $p_l$  and  $p_u$  by

$$a = \frac{2\pi}{p_u} \quad b = \frac{2\pi}{p_l}$$

If infinite amount of data is available, then we can use the ideal bandpass filter

$$y_t = B(L)x_t$$

where the filter,  $B(L)$ , is given in terms of the lag operator  $L$  and defined as

$$B(L) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} B_j L^j, \quad L^k x_t = x_{t-k}$$

The ideal bandpass filter weights are given by

$$B_j = \frac{\sin(jb) - \sin(ja)}{\pi j}$$

$$B_0 = \frac{b - a}{\pi}$$

Let  $T$  be even and define  $n_1 = T/p_u$  and  $n_2 = T/p_l$ . The trigonometric regression filter is based on the following relation

$$y_t = \sum_{j=n_2}^{n_1} \{a_j \cos(\omega_j t) + b_j \sin(\omega_j t)\}$$

where  $a_j$  and  $b_j$  are the coefficients obtained by regressing  $x_t$  on the indicated sine and cosine functions. Specifically,

$$a_j = \frac{T}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \cos(\omega_j t) x_t, \quad \text{for } j = 1, \dots, T/2 - 1$$

$$a_j = \frac{T}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \cos(\pi t) x_t, \quad \text{for } j = T/2$$

and

$$b_j = \frac{T}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \sin(\omega_j t) x_t, \quad \text{for } j = 1, \dots, T/2 - 1$$

$$b_j = \frac{T}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \sin(\pi t) x_t, \quad \text{for } j = T/2$$

Let  $\hat{B}(L)x_t$  be the trigonometric regression filter. It can be showed that  $\hat{B}(1) = 0$ , so that  $\hat{B}(L)$  has a unit root for  $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ . Also, when  $\hat{B}(L)$  is symmetric, it has a second unit root in the middle of the data for  $t$ . Therefore it is important to drift adjust data before it is filtered with a trigonometric regression filter.

If `drift=TRUE` the drift adjusted series is obtained as

$$\tilde{x}_t = x_t - t \left( \frac{x_T - x_1}{T - 1} \right), \quad t = 0, 1, \dots, T - 1$$

where  $\tilde{x}_t$  is the undrifted series.

### Value

A "mFilter" object (see [mFilter](#)).

### Author(s)

Mehmet Balcilar, <mehmet@mbalcilar.net>

### References

- M. Baxter and R.G. King. Measuring business cycles: Approximate bandpass filters. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 81(4):575-93, 1999.
- L. Christiano and T.J. Fitzgerald. The bandpass filter. *International Economic Review*, 44(2):435-65, 2003.
- J. D. Hamilton. *Time series analysis*. Princeton, 1994.
- R.J. Hodrick and E.C. Prescott. Postwar US business cycles: an empirical investigation. *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*, 29(1):1-16, 1997.
- R.G. King and S.T. Rebelo. Low frequency filtering and real business cycles. *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, 17(1-2):207-31, 1993.
- D.S.G. Pollock. Trend estimation and de-trending via rational square-wave filters. *Journal of Econometrics*, 99:317-334, 2000.

**See Also**

[mFilter](#), [hpfilter](#), [cfilter](#), [bkfilter](#), [bwfilter](#)

**Examples**

```
## library(mFilter)

data(unemp)

opar <- par(no.readonly=TRUE)

unemp.tr <- trfilter(unemp, drift=TRUE)
plot(unemp.tr)
unemp.tr1 <- trfilter(unemp, drift=TRUE)
unemp.tr2 <- trfilter(unemp, pl=8,pu=40,drift=TRUE)
unemp.tr3 <- trfilter(unemp, pl=2,pu=60,drift=TRUE)
unemp.tr4 <- trfilter(unemp, pl=2,pu=40,drift=TRUE)

par(mfrow=c(2,1),mar=c(3,3,2,1),cex=.8)
plot(unemp.tr1$x,
     main="Trigonometric regression filter of unemployment: Trend, drift=TRUE",
     col=1, ylab="")
lines(unemp.tr1$trend,col=2)
lines(unemp.tr2$trend,col=3)
lines(unemp.tr3$trend,col=4)
lines(unemp.tr4$trend,col=5)
legend("topleft",legend=c("series", "pl=2, pu=32", "pl=8, pu=40",
"pl=2, pu=60", "pl=2, pu=40"), col=1:5, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

plot(unemp.tr1$cycle,
     main="Trigonometric regression filter of unemployment: Cycle,drift=TRUE",
     col=2, ylab="", ylim=range(unemp.tr3$cycle,na.rm=TRUE))
lines(unemp.tr2$cycle,col=3)
lines(unemp.tr3$cycle,col=4)
lines(unemp.tr4$cycle,col=5)
## legend("topleft",legend=c("pl=2, pu=32", "pl=8, pu=40", "pl=2, pu=60",
## "pl=2, pu=40"), col=1:5, lty=rep(1,5), ncol=1)

par(opar)
```

---

unemp

*US Quarterly Unemployment Series*


---

**Description**

Quarterly US unemployment series for 1959.1 to 2000.4.

*number of observations* : 168

*observation* : country

*country* : United States

**Usage**

```
data(unemp)
```

**Format**

A time series containing :

**unemp** unemployment rate (average of months in quarter)

**Author(s)**

Mehmet Balcilar, <mehmet@mbalcilar.net>

**Source**

Bureau of Labor Statistics, OECD, Federal Reserve.

**References**

Stock, James H. and Mark W. Watson (2003) *Introduction to Econometrics*, Addison-Wesley Educational Publishers, chapter 12 and 14.

**Examples**

```
## library(mFilter)

data(unemp)

unemp.hp <- mFilter(unemp,filter="HP") # Hodrick-Prescott filter
unemp.bk <- mFilter(unemp,filter="BK") # Baxter-King filter
unemp.cf <- mFilter(unemp,filter="CF") # Christiano-Fitzgerald filter

opar <- par(no.readonly=TRUE)
par(mfrow=c(2,1),mar=c(3,3,2,1))
plot(unemp,main="Unemployment Series & Estimated Trend",col=1,ylab="")
lines(unemp.hp$trend,col=2)
lines(unemp.bk$trend,col=3)
lines(unemp.cf$trend,col=4)
legend("topleft",legend=c("series", "HP", "BK", "CF"),col=1:4,
      lty=rep(1,4),ncol=2)

plot(unemp.hp$cycle,main="Estimated Cyclical Component",col=2,
      ylim=c(-2,2),ylab="")
lines(unemp.bk$cycle,col=3)
lines(unemp.cf$cycle,col=4)
legend("topleft",legend=c("HP", "BK", "CF"),col=2:4,lty=rep(1,3),ncol=2)
par(opar)
```



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