# Package 'tvdenoising'

July 22, 2025

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Title Univariate Total Variation Denoising
Version 1.0.0
<b>Description</b> Total variation denoising can be used to approximate a given sequence of noisy observations by a piecewise constant sequence, with adaptively-chosen break points. An efficient linear-time algorithm for total variation denoising is provided here, based on Johnson (2013) <doi:10.1080 10618600.2012.681238="">.</doi:10.1080>
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<pre>URL https://github.com/glmgen/tvdenoising,</pre>
https://glmgen.github.io/tvdenoising/
BugReports https://github.com/glmgen/tvdenoising/issues
Imports Rcpp, rlang
Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, testthat (>= 3.0.0)
LinkingTo Rcpp
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tvdenoising

Univariate total variation denoising

#### Description

Denoises a sequence of observations by solving the univariate total variation denoising optimization problem at a given regularization level.

#### Usage

```
tvdenoising(y, lambda, weights = NULL)
```

#### **Arguments**

y Vector of observations to be denoised.

lambda Regularization parameter value. Must be >= 0.

weights Vector of observation weights. The default is NULL, which corresponds to unity

weights. If specified, this vector must have the same length as y, and must have

positive entries.

#### **Details**

This function minimizes the univariate total variation denoising (also called fused lasso) criterion squares criterion

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \theta_i)^2 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} |\theta_{i+1} - \theta_i|,$$

over  $\theta$ . This is a special structured convex optimization problem which can be solved in linear time (O(n)) operations) using algorithms based on dynamic programming (Viterbi) or taut string methods. The current function implements a highly-efficient dynamic programming method developed by Johnson (2013).

#### Value

Vector of denoised values.

#### References

Johnson (2013), "A dynamic programming algorithm for the fused lasso and L0-segmentation."

### Examples

```
y <- c(rep(0, 50), rep(3, 50)) + rnorm(100)
yhat <- tvdenoising(y, 5)
plot(y, pch = 16, col = "gray60")
lines(yhat, col = "firebrick", lwd = 2)</pre>
```

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