

Package ‘RLT’

July 21, 2025

Version 3.2.6

Date 2023-04-28

Title Reinforcement Learning Trees

Suggests randomForest, survival

Description Random forest with a variety of additional features for regression, classification and survival analysis.

The features include: parallel computing with OpenMP, embedded model for selecting the splitting variable,

based on Zhu, Zeng & Kosorok (2015) <[doi:10.1080/01621459.2015.1036994](https://doi.org/10.1080/01621459.2015.1036994)>, subject weight, variable weight,

tracking subjects used in each tree, etc.

License GPL (>= 2)

URL <https://cran.r-project.org/package=RLT>

NeedsCompilation yes

Repository CRAN

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

Author Ruoqing Zhu [aut, cre, cph] (ORCID:

<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0753-5716>>)

Maintainer Ruoqing Zhu <teazrq@gmail.com>

Date/Publication 2023-04-28 10:50:02 UTC

Contents

MuteRate	2
predict.RLT	2
print.RLT	3
RLT	4
Index	8

MuteRate	<i>Muting rate</i>
----------	--------------------

Description

Get the muting rate based on sample size N and dimension P. This is an experimental feature. When P is too small, this is not recommended.

Usage

```
MuteRate(N, P, speed = NULL, info = FALSE)
```

Arguments

N	sample size
P	dimension
speed	Muting speed: moderate or aggressive
info	Whether to output detailed information

Value

A suggested muting rate

Examples

```
MuteRate(500, 100, speed = "aggressive")
```

predict.RLT	<i>Prediction function for reinforcement learning trees</i>
-------------	---

Description

Predict future subjects with a fitted RLT model

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'RLT'
predict(object, testx, ...)
```

Arguments

object	A fitted RLT object
testx	Testing data
...	...

Value

The predicted values. For survival model, it returns the fitted survival functions

Examples

```
x = matrix(rnorm(100), ncol = 10)
y = rowMeans(x)
fit = RLT(x, y, ntrees = 5)
predict(fit, x)
```

print.RLT	<i>Print a RLT object</i>
-----------	---------------------------

Description

Print a RLT object

Usage

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

Arguments

x	A fitted RLT object
...	...

Value

No return value

Examples

```
x = matrix(rnorm(100), ncol = 10)
y = rowMeans(x)
fit = RLT(x, y, ntrees = 5)
fit
```

Description

Fit models for regression, classification and survival analysis using reinforced splitting rules

Usage

```
RLT(
  x,
  y,
  censor = NULL,
  model = "regression",
  print.summary = 0,
  use.cores = 1,
  ntrees = if (reinforcement) 100 else 500,
  mtry = max(1, as.integer(ncol(x)/3)),
  nmin = max(1, as.integer(log(nrow(x)))),
  alpha = 0.4,
  split.gen = "random",
  nsplit = 1,
  resample.prob = 0.9,
  replacement = TRUE,
  npermute = 1,
  select.method = "var",
  subject.weight = NULL,
  variable.weight = NULL,
  track.obs = FALSE,
  importance = TRUE,
  reinforcement = FALSE,
  muting = -1,
  muting.percent = if (reinforcement) MuteRate(nrow(x), ncol(x), speed = "aggressive",
    info = FALSE) else 0,
  protect = as.integer(log(ncol(x))),
  combsplit = 1,
  combsplit.th = 0.25,
  random.select = 0,
  embed.n.th = 4 * nmin,
  embed.ntrees = max(1, -atan(0.01 * (ncol(x) - 500))/pi * 100 + 50),
  embed.resample.prob = 0.8,
  embed.mtry = 1/2,
  embed.nmin = as.integer(nrow(x)^(1/3)),
  embed.split.gen = "random",
  embed.nsplit = 1
)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	A matrix or data.frame for features
<code>y</code>	Response variable, a numeric/factor vector or a Surv object
<code>censor</code>	The censoring indicator if survival model is used
<code>model</code>	The model type: regression, classification or survival
<code>print.summary</code>	Whether summary should be printed
<code>use.cores</code>	Number of cores
<code>ntrees</code>	Number of trees, <code>ntrees = 100</code> if use reinforcement, <code>ntrees = 1000</code> otherwise
<code>mtry</code>	Number of variables used at each internal node, only for reinforcement = FALSE
<code>nmin</code>	Minimum number of observations required in an internal node to perform a split. Set this to twice of the desired terminal node size.
<code>alpha</code>	Minimum number of observations required for each child node as a portion of the parent node. Must be within $(0, 0.5]$.
<code>split.gen</code>	How the cutting points are generated
<code>nsplit</code>	Number of random cutting points to compare for each variable at an internal node
<code>resample.prob</code>	Proportion of in-bag samples
<code>replacement</code>	Whether the in-bag samples are sampled with replacement
<code>npermute</code>	Number of imputations (currently not implemented, saved for future use)
<code>select.method</code>	Method to compare different splits
<code>subject.weight</code>	Subject weights
<code>variable.weight</code>	Variable weights when randomly sample <code>mtry</code> to select the splitting rule
<code>track.obs</code>	Track which terminal node the observation belongs to
<code>importance</code>	Should importance measures be calculated
<code>reinforcement</code>	If reinforcement splitting rules should be used. There are default values for all tuning parameters under this feature.
<code>muting</code>	Muting method, -1 for muting by proportion, positive for muting by count
<code>muting.percent</code>	Only for muting = -1 the proportion of muting
<code>protect</code>	Number of protected variables that will not be muted. These variables are adaptively selected for each tree.
<code>combsplit</code>	Number of variables used in a combination split. <code>combsplit = 1</code> gives regular binary split; <code>combsplit > 1</code> produces linear combination splits.
<code>combsplit.th</code>	The minimum threshold (as a relative measurement compared to the best variable) for a variable to be used in the combination split.
<code>random.select</code>	Randomly select a variable from the top variable in the linear combination as the splitting rule.
<code>embed.n.th</code>	Number of observations to stop the embedded model and choose randomly from the current protected variables.

<code>embed.ntrees</code>	Number of embedded trees
<code>embed.resample.prob</code>	Proportion of in-bag samples for embedded trees
<code>embed.mtry</code>	Number of variables used for embedded trees, as proportion
<code>embed.nmin</code>	Terminal node size for embedded trees
<code>embed.split.gen</code>	How the cutting points are generated in the embedded trees
<code>embed.nsplit</code>	Number of random cutting points for embedded trees

Value

A RLT object; a list consisting of

<code>FittedTrees</code>	Fitted tree structure
<code>FittedSurv, timepoints</code>	Terminal node survival estimation and all time points, if survival model is used
<code>AllError</code>	All out-of-bag errors, if importance = TRUE
<code>VarImp</code>	Variable importance measures, if importance = TRUE
<code>ObsTrack</code>	Registration of each observation in each fitted tree
<code>...</code>	All the tuning parameters are saved in the fitted RLT object

References

- Zhu, R., Zeng, D., & Kosorok, M. R. (2015) "Reinforcement Learning Trees." *Journal of the American Statistical Association*. 110(512), 1770-1784.
- Zhu, R., & Kosorok, M. R. (2012). Recursively imputed survival trees. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 107(497), 331-340.

Examples

```

N = 600
P = 100

X = matrix(runif(N*P), N, P)
Y = rowSums(X[,1:5]) + rnorm(N)

trainx = X[1:200,]
trainy = Y[1:200]
testx = X[-c(1:200),]
testy = Y[-c(1:200)]

# Regular ensemble trees (Extremely Randomized Trees, Geurts, et. al., 2006)

RLT.fit = RLT(trainx, trainy, model = "regression", use.cores = 6)

barplot(RLT.fit$VarImp)
RLT.pred = predict(RLT.fit, testx)
mean((RLT.pred$Prediction - testy)^2)

```

```
# Reinforcement Learning Trees, using an embedded model to find the splitting rule

Mark0 = proc.time()
RLT.fit = RLT(trainx, trainy, model = "regression", use.cores = 6, ntrees = 100,
              importance = TRUE, reinforcement = TRUE, combsplit = 3, embed.ntrees = 25)
proc.time() - Mark0

barplot(RLT.fit$VarImp)
RLT.pred = predict(RLT.fit, testx)
mean((RLT.pred$Prediction - testy)^2)
```

Index

MuteRate, [2](#)

predict.RLT, [2](#)

print.RLT, [3](#)

RLT, [4](#)