

Package: randomForestRHF (via r-universe)

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Title Random Hazard Forests

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Description Random Hazard Forests (RHF) extend Random Survival Forests (RSF) by directly estimating the hazard function and by accommodating time-dependent covariates through counting-process style inputs. The package fits tree ensembles for dynamic survival prediction, returning hazard, cumulative hazard, integrated hazard, and related performance summaries for training and test data. The methods build on Random Survival Forests described by Ishwaran et al. (2008) <doi:10.1214/08-AOAS169> and on nonparametric hazard modeling with time-dependent covariates described by Lee et al. (2021) <doi:10.1214/20-AOS2028>.

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URL <https://www.randomforestsources.org/> <https://ishwaran.org/>

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auct.rhf	<i>Time-varying AUC(t) and iAUC for Random Hazard Forests (TDC)</i>
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Description

Compute the time-varying AUC(t) and its time-aggregated summaries for Random Hazard Forests (RHF) with time-dependent covariates (TDC).

Usage

```
auct.rhf(
  object,
  marker = c("cumhaz", "hazard", "chf", "haz"),
  method = c("cumulative", "incident"),
  tau = NULL,
  riskset = c("subject", "record"),
  min.controls = 25,
  nfrac.controls = 0.10,
  min.cases = 1,
  g.floor = 0.10,
  g.floor.q = NULL,
  power = 2,
  ydata = NULL,
  winsor.q = NULL,
  eps = 1e-12,
  bootstrap.rep = 0L,
  bootstrap.refit = FALSE,
  bootstrap.conf = 0.95,
  bootstrap.seed = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE
)

## S3 method for class 'auct.rhf'
print(x, digits = 4, max.rows = 8, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'auct.rhf'
plot(x, bass = 10, xlab = "Time", ylab = NULL,
     main = NULL, ylim = NULL, pch = 16, alpha = .05, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An RHF object. For grow/restore objects (class includes "rhf" and "grow"), OOB prediction matrices are used. For predict objects (class includes "rhf" and "predict"), test data is used (supply ydata= if the object does not include id/yvar).
marker	Which time-varying score to evaluate: "cumhaz" (alias "chf") or "hazard" (alias "haz").
method	Target estimand. "incident" (incident/dynamic) uses cases who fail at time t and controls who are at risk at t ; this targets instantaneous hazard discrimination. "cumulative" (cumulative/dynamic) uses cases who have failed by t and controls who are event-free at t ; this matches the more commonly used time-dependent AUC (Heagerty and Zheng, 2005).
tau	Optional time horizon. Evaluation is restricted to times $t \leq \tau$.
riskset	Risk-set definition for method = "incident": "subject" treats a subject as at risk when $\text{entry} < t \leq \text{stop}$; "record" uses counting-process rows. Ignored when method = "cumulative".
min.controls	Minimum number of controls required at each evaluated time.
nfrac.controls	Minimum fraction of the total sample to be available as controls at each evaluated time.
min.cases	Minimum number of cases required at each evaluated time.
g.floor	Lower bound used to stabilize inverse-probability-of-censoring weights $G(t)$ (global KM).
g.floor.q	Optional quantile-based floor (computed over the evaluation grid) to further protect tails.
power	Exponent in the Uno-style time weight, effectively using weights proportional to $1 / G(t)^{\text{power}}$. The classical choice is power = 2.
ydata	Counting-process data frame (id, start, stop, event, ...). Required when object is a predict object that does not carry id/yvar.
winsor.q	Optional winsorization quantile (e.g., 0.99) applied to the time weights to minimize extreme influence.
eps	Small positive constant for numerical stability in weight calculations.
bootstrap.rep	Number of bootstrap replicates for standard errors. Default is 0 (no bootstrap).
bootstrap.refit	Logical. If FALSE (default), uses a subject-level pairs bootstrap with the fitted marker held fixed ("plug-in"). If TRUE, performs a <i>full refit</i> at each replicate, using the original RHF tuning parameters.
bootstrap.conf	Confidence level for pointwise normal bands on $AUC(t)$ when bootstrap.rep > 0 (e.g., 0.95). Set to NA to suppress bands.

verbose Logical; if TRUE, enable bootstrap progress messages. Messages can be silenced with `suppressMessages()`.

bootstrap.seed Optional integer seed used before bootstrap resampling for reproducibility.

x, digits, max.rows, bass, xlab, ylab, main, ylim, pch, alpha, ... Standard arguments for the print and plot methods.

Details

What is estimated. At each evaluation time t , the function computes an AUC for the chosen marker (either cumulative hazard or hazard), using the specified case/control definition:

- *Incident/dynamic* (method = "incident"): cases fail at t ; controls are at risk at t .
- *Cumulative/dynamic* (method = "cumulative"): cases have failed by t ; controls are event-free at t .

The per-time AUC(t) values are combined in two ways:

- `iAUC.uno`: an inverse-probability-of-censoring weighted (IPCW) average of AUC(t) over time, using a global KM estimate $G(t)$ and a weight proportional to $1 / G(t)^{\text{power}}$ (Uno-style time weighting). Stabilization parameters include `g.floor`, `g.floor.q`, and `winsor.q`.
- `iAUC.std`: a simple time-standardized mean of AUC(t) over the evaluation grid (trapezoidal rule divided by span). This quantity is sensitive to the time window and the shape of AUC(t) across time.

Markers. For method = "cumulative", using marker = "cumhaz" matches standard time-dependent AUCs. Using marker = "hazard" with "cumulative" often yields smaller AUC(t), as it targets instantaneous risk rather than cumulative risk.

Risk-set choice. When method = "incident" there are two ways to define controls at time t :

- `riskset = "subject"`: at risk when $\text{entry} < t \leq \text{Tstop}$ (one interval per subject). Fast and appropriate when subject rows tile continuous follow-up (no gaps).
- `riskset = "record"`: at risk when a counting-process row satisfies $\text{start} < t \leq \text{stop}$. Exact under gaps but may yield fewer controls at sparse times.

If rows tile the entire follow-up, the two definitions coincide (up to ties). With gaps, "subject" can over-include controls (lower variance but a conceptual mismatch), while "record" is exact but can be sparser. For method = "cumulative" the risk-set choice is ignored.

Bootstrap. When `bootstrap.rep > 0`, two modes are available:

- *Plug-in* (`bootstrap.refit = FALSE`): subject-level pairs bootstrap holding the fitted marker matrix fixed. Weights the within-time AUC(t) using resampled multiplicities and recomputes Uno's time weights via a weighted KM.
- *Refit* (`bootstrap.refit = TRUE`): for each replicate, resample subjects, *refit* the RHF using the original tuning parameters, and re-evaluate AUC(t). The returned per-time SEs are matched to the original evaluation grid. For predict objects, the refit is performed using the data carried in the object; predictions are then recomputed for those data. This is computationally heavier but captures variability from model fitting.

The plot method draws a base-R shaded band for AUC(t) when bootstrap SEs are present.

Value

An object of class "auct.rhf" with elements:

- `AUC.by.time`: data frame with columns `time`, `AUC`, `n.cases`, `n.ctrl`, `G`, `W`.
- `iAUC.uno`: IPCW (Uno-style) time-averaged AUC.
- `iAUC.std`: time-standardized mean of `AUC(t)`.
- `marker`, `method`, `riskset`, `power`, `g.floor`, `g.floor.q`, `winsor.q`, `times`: metadata.
- `diag.riskset`: Quick diagnostic comparing control counts under `riskset = "subject"` vs `"record"` on a small subset of times (list with `times`, `n.ctrl.subject`, `n.ctrl.record`, `n.diff`, `prop.times.different`).
- `boot`: present when `bootstrap.rep > 0` with `AUC.se` (per-time SE matched to the reporting grid), `iAUC.uno.se`, `iAUC.std.se`, `conf.level`, `AUC.lower`, `AUC.upper`, `rep`, and mode ("plug-in" or "refit").

Generic methods `print` and `plot` are provided for compact summaries and visualization.

Author(s)

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References

- Heagerty, P. J., Lumley, T., and Pepe, M. S. (2000). Time-dependent ROC curves for censored survival data and a diagnostic marker. *Biometrics*, 56(2), 337–344.
- Heagerty, P. J., and Zheng, Y. (2005). Survival model predictive accuracy and ROC curves. *Biometrics*, 61(1), 92–105.
- Uno, H., Tian, L., Cai, T., Kohane, I. S., Wei, L.-J. (2013). A unified inference procedure for a class of measures to assess improvement in risk prediction systems with survival data. *Statistics in Medicine*, 32(14), 2430–2442.

See Also

[rhf](#), [predict.rhf](#)

Examples

```
## -----
## Peak V02 example
## -----

data(peakV02, package = "randomForestSRC")
d <- convert.counting(Surv(ttodead, died) ~ ., peakV02)
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

o <- rhf(f, d, ntree = 25, nodesize = 5)

## AUC(t) with cumulative/dynamic definition and cumhaz marker
```

```

a.chf <- auct.rhf(o, marker = "cumhaz", method = "cumulative")

## AUC(t) with incident/dynamic definition and hazard marker
a.haz <- auct.rhf(o, marker = "hazard", method = "incident")

print(a.chf)
print(a.haz)

oldpar <- par(mfrow = c(1, 2))
plot(a.chf, main = "AUC(t): cumulative + cumhaz")
plot(a.haz, main = "AUC(t): incident + hazard")
par(oldpar)

## -----
## TDC illustration with training/testing
## -----

trn <- hazard.simulation(1)$dta
tst <- hazard.simulation(1)$dta
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."
o <- rhf(f, trn, ntree = 25)
p <- predict(o, tst)
a.trn <- auct.rhf(o)
a.tst <- auct.rhf(p)

oldpar <- par(mfrow = c(1, 2))
plot(a.trn, main = "AUC(t): chf marker, train", ylim = c(0.5,1))
plot(a.tst, main = "AUC(t): chf marker, test", ylim = c(0.5,1))
par(oldpar)

## -----
## Bootstrap SEs and shaded band
## -----

d <- hazard.simulation(1)$dta
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."
o <- rhf(f, d)

oldpar <- par(mfrow = c(1, 2))

## plug-in bootstrap
a.bs1 <- auct.rhf(o, marker = "cumhaz", method = "cumulative",
                 bootstrap.rep = 20, bootstrap.seed = 123)
plot(a.bs1, main = "AUC(t) with bootstrap band (plug-in)")

## refit bootstrap (can be slow)
a.bs2 <- auct.rhf(o, marker = "cumhaz", method = "cumulative",
                 bootstrap.rep = 10, bootstrap.refit = TRUE, bootstrap.seed = 7)
plot(a.bs2, main = "AUC(t) with bootstrap band (refit)")

par(oldpar)

```

`importance.rhf`*Time-localized VarPro importance for random hazard forests*

Description

Computes time-localized variable importance for a random hazard forest (RHF) by using VarPro (variable priority) importance and restricting rule and near-miss memberships to pseudo-individuals whose start-stop intervals overlap selected windows from the master time grid `time.interest`. The working response used for VarPro importance is now taken directly from the RHF object as the logarithm of the upstream integrated hazard exposure, giving a fast localized view of how variable importance evolves over time.

Usage

```
importance.rhf(o,
  cache = NULL,
  time.index = NULL,
  trim = 0.1,
  sort = TRUE,
  max.rules.tree,
  max.tree,
  eps = 1e-6,
  y.external = NULL,
  verbose = FALSE,
  ...)

varpro.cache.rhf(o,
  max.rules.tree = 150L,
  max.tree = 150L,
  y.external = NULL,
  eps = 1e-6,
  verbose = FALSE)

## S3 method for class 'importance.rhf'
print(x,
  top = 10L,
  rank.by = c("q90", "median", "mean", "max"),
  digits = 4L,
  scientific.threshold = 1e4,
  ...)

## S3 method for class 'importance.rhf'
as.data.frame(x,
  row.names = NULL,
  optional = FALSE,
```

```

format = c("long", "variable_by_time", "time_by_variable"),
...)

dotmatrix.importance.rhf(x,
vars = NULL,
top_n_union = 15L,
variable.labels = NULL,
time.labels = NULL,
sort_by = c("q90", "sum", "max", "mean", "median", "alphabetical", "cluster", "none"),
sort_abs = TRUE,
transform = c("none", "log10"),
color_by = c("value", "sign", "single", "none"),
point_color = "steelblue4",
value_colors = c("grey85", "steelblue4"),
sign_colors = c("firebrick3", "grey90", "steelblue4"),
cex.range = c(0.6, 3.2),
size.cap = 0.99,
color.cap = 0.99,
alpha = 0.9,
show.grid = TRUE,
grid.col = "grey92",
legend = TRUE,
display.note = TRUE,
xlab = "",
ylab = "",
main = "RHF time-localized VarPro importance",
axis.cex = 0.7,
var.cex = 0.7,
time.label.srt = 45,
save_plot = FALSE,
out.file = "rhf_time_varpro_dotmatrix.pdf",
width = 11,
height = NULL,
mar = NULL,
legend.width = 0.7,
...)

barplot.importance.rhf(x,
vars = NULL,
top_n_union = 15L,
variable.labels = NULL,
time.labels = NULL,
sort_by = c("q90", "sum", "max", "mean", "median", "alphabetical", "cluster", "none"),
sort_abs = TRUE,
transform = c("none", "log10"),
color_by = c("value", "sign", "single", "none"),
point_color = NULL,
bar_color = "steelblue4",

```

```

value_colors = c("grey85", "steelblue4"),
sign_colors = c("firebrick3", "grey90", "steelblue4"),
cex.range = NULL,
bar.width = 0.65,
bar.max.height = NULL,
size.cap = 0.99,
color.cap = 0.99,
alpha = 0.9,
show.grid = TRUE,
grid.col = "grey92",
zero.line = TRUE,
zero.col = "grey65",
legend = TRUE,
display.note = TRUE,
xlab = "",
ylab = "",
main = "RHF time-localized VarPro importance",
axis.cex = 0.7,
var.cex = 0.7,
time.label.srt = 45,
save_plot = FALSE,
out.file = "rhf_time_varpro_barplot.pdf",
width = 11,
height = NULL,
mar = NULL,
legend.width = 0.7,
border = NA,
...)

## S3 method for class 'importance.rhf'
plot(x,
     type = c("dotmatrix", "barplot", "lines"),
     vars = NULL,
     top = 10L,
     rank.by = c("q90", "median", "mean", "max"),
     curve = c("step", "line", "lowess"),
     smooth.f = 2/3,
     display.cap = 0.99,
     display.note = TRUE,
     xlab = NULL,
     ylab = NULL,
     lty = 1,
     lwd = 2,
     ...)

```

Arguments

- o A RHF object with class "rhf".

cache	Optional cache object returned by <code>varpro.cache()</code> . If <code>NULL</code> , the cache is built internally. Supplying a cache is useful when repeated calls are made.
time.index	Optional vector identifying which windows of the time grid <code>o\$time.interest</code> are to be analyzed. This may be an integer index vector or a logical vector of length <code>length(o\$time.interest)</code> . If omitted, all windows are used.
trim	Tuning parameter passed to the underlying VarPro importance workhorse. <code>trim</code> controls winsorized aggregation across trees.
sort	Logical. If <code>TRUE</code> , variables are ordered within each window in decreasing importance before the long-format output is assembled.
max.rules.tree, max.tree	Arguments controlling rule extraction when the cache is built.
y.external	Optional externally supplied working response. When <code>NULL</code> , the working response is built internally from the RHF object's integrated hazard exposure values.
eps	Nonnegative value added before taking the logarithm of the integrated hazard exposure when <code>y.external</code> is not supplied.
verbose	Logical. If <code>TRUE</code> , reports cache construction and per-window progress.
x	An object of class "importance.rhf".
top, rank.by	Arguments used by <code>print()</code> and by <code>plot(type = "lines")</code> . Printing now ranks variables robustly over time by default using <code>rank.by = "q90"</code> . The line plot also uses <code>rank.by</code> when <code>vars</code> is omitted.
digits, scientific.threshold	Formatting controls for <code>print()</code> , used to keep very large importance values readable.
row.names, optional	Included for compatibility with <code>as.data.frame()</code> .
format	Output format for <code>as.data.frame()</code> . "long" returns the long-format table, "variable_by_time" returns a data frame whose rows are variables and columns are times, and "time_by_variable" returns the transpose with window meta-data.
type, vars, top_n_union	Arguments controlling which variables are displayed and which plot is produced. <code>type = "dotmatrix"</code> gives the time-by-variable dot-matrix display, <code>type = "barplot"</code> gives the companion time-by-variable bar-matrix display, and <code>type = "lines"</code> gives a line, step, or smoothed view for selected variables. When <code>vars</code> is omitted, the line plot chooses top variables using <code>rank.by</code> , while the dot-matrix and bar-matrix plots use the union of the top <code>top_n_union</code> variables across time.
curve, smooth.f, lty, lwd, display.cap, display.note	Arguments for <code>type = "lines"</code> . <code>curve</code> chooses between step, ordinary line, and lowess-smoothed displays; <code>smooth.f</code> is passed to <code>stats::lowess()</code> when needed; <code>lty</code> and <code>lwd</code> control line type and line width. <code>display.cap</code> applies display-only quantile capping to stabilize the vertical scale in the presence of extreme spikes, and <code>display.note</code> toggles the on-plot note when capping is applied. The same <code>display.note</code> flag is also used by the dot-matrix and bar-matrix plots.

variable.labels, time.labels, sort_by, sort_abs
 Arguments controlling variable labeling and ordering in the dot-matrix and bar-matrix plots. Variable labels may be supplied as a named vector or a two-column data frame. Variables may be ordered by robust aggregate importance, alphabetically, hierarchical clustering, or left in their existing order.

transform, color_by, point_color, bar_color, value_colors, sign_colors, cex.range, bar.width, bar.max.height, size.cap, color.cap, alpha, legend
 Arguments controlling dot size or bar height, color encoding, display-only quantile capping, transparency, and the optional right-side legend in the dot-matrix and bar-matrix plots. For the bar-matrix plot, bar.width controls the width of each bar within a time cell and bar.max.height controls the largest bar height within a variable row. When color_by = "sign", bars are drawn upward or downward from the row center according to the sign of the importance value. In the bar-matrix plot, point_color is accepted as a compatibility alias for bar_color, and cex.range is accepted but ignored.

xlab, ylab, main, axis.cex, var.cex, time.label.srt, show.grid, grid.col, zero.line, zero.col, border, mar, legend.width, width, height, save_plot, out.file
 Display, layout, and export options for the plotting helpers. By default the dot-matrix and bar-matrix plots use blank axis labels, draw light guide lines, compute margins automatically, and can optionally be written to file with save_plot = TRUE. zero.line and zero.col control row-center reference lines for signed bar plots; border is passed to the rectangles drawn by the bar-matrix plot.

... Additional arguments passed to internal calculations or plotting routines.

Details

This routine implements a *fast localization* strategy for RHF VarPro importance. The master time grid is taken from time.interest. For a window corresponding to a selected grid index, the method keeps only those pseudo-individuals whose start-stop interval overlaps that window, while reusing the same sampled rules and near-miss sets already obtained from the RHF fit.

For RHF objects the underlying VarPro importance calculation follows a regression-style approach in which the working response is the logarithm of the integrated hazard exposure, and local rule importance is computed by comparing this working response in a rule versus its near-miss set. Time localization is achieved by restricting those memberships within each window rather than rebuilding the entire rule structure repeatedly.

The helper varpro.cache() stores the minimum information needed for repeated localized importance calculations: a regression-style rule template, window metadata, the working response source, and precomputed window-local rule statistics. During cache construction, raw OOB and complementary memberships are converted into compact per-window rule summaries, so the later window sweep does not need to rescan membership vectors.

The returned importance matrix has variables in rows and selected time windows in columns. Column names correspond to the right endpoints of the selected windows. The long-format table contains the same values together with window metadata such as start, stop, midpoint, number at risk, and number of active rules.

Printing and plotting share a robust strategy. Summaries default to a robust over-time ranking based on the 90th percentile, and the plotting helpers apply optional quantile capping for display only.

This prevents rare extreme spikes from flattening curves while preserving the original importance matrix for downstream analyses.

Value

`varpro.cache()` returns an object containing cached rule memberships, the working response used for importance, start-stop information for pseudo-individuals, time-window metadata, and the rule extraction settings.

`importance.rhf()` returns a list including:

- `importance.matrix`: matrix of localized importance values with variables in rows and selected time windows in columns.
- `importance.long`: long-format data frame containing variable, time, window metadata, and localized importance.
- `window.info`: data frame describing the analyzed windows, including start, stop, midpoint, `n.risk`, and `n.rules`.
- `y.source`: source of the working response. This is `"int.haz.oob"`, `"int.haz.test"`, or `"y.external"`.
- `trim`: tuning value used in importance aggregation.

`print()` returns its input invisibly after displaying a short summary that includes robust over-time summaries for the leading variables.

`as.data.frame()` returns one of the supported data-frame views.

`dotmatrix.importance.rhf()` produces a base-R dot-matrix plot and returns plotting metadata invisibly.

`barplot.importance.rhf()` produces a base-R bar-matrix plot and returns plotting metadata invisibly.

`plot()` returns invisibly the result of the underlying plotting helper.

See Also

[rhf](#)

Examples

```
#####
##
## simulation model
##
#####

## draw simulation (can be modified)
n <- 400
p <- 10
simid <- 2
d <- hazard.simulation(type = simid, n = n, p = p, nrecords = 4)$dta

## fit a RHF model with weighted mtry (use for high-dimension)
```

```

f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."
o <- rhf(f, d, ntree = 50, nsplit = 5, xvar.wt = xvar.wt.rhf(f, d))
print(o)

## time-localized RHF importance across the full time grid
imp.t <- importance.rhf(o)
print(imp.t)

## extract the variable-by-time matrix
print(head(imp.t$importance.matrix))

oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(1,1))

## dot-matrix importance plot (default)
plot(imp.t)

## companion bar-matrix importance plot
plot(imp.t, type = "barplot")

## step-style importance line plot for the top variables
## (ranked by the 90th percentile over time and display-capped at q99)
plot(imp.t, type = "lines", top = 10)

## smoothed importance plot for all variables with display capping
plot(imp.t, type = "lines", curve = "lowess", smooth.f = 0.5,
      display.cap = 0.95)

## dot-matrix plot with robust ordering and display capping
plot(imp.t, sort_by = "q90", size.cap = 0.99, color.cap = 0.99)

## bar-matrix plot using signed colors, if signed importance values are present
plot(imp.t, type = "barplot", color_by = "sign")

par(oldpar)

## reuse a cache for repeated calls on subsets of the time grid
cache <- varpro.cache(o)
imp.t.sub <- importance.rhf(
  o,
  cache = cache,
  time.index = seq(1, length(o$time.interest), by = 5),
  verbose = TRUE
)

## long-format export
print(head(as.data.frame(imp.t.sub)))

```

Description

Plot case specific hazard and cumulative hazard (CHF) from a fitted random hazard forest (RHF) object. Hazards are smoothed with `stats::supsmu`. Optional scaling places hazards on the same scale as the CHF for easier comparison.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'rhf'
plot(x, idx = NULL, scale.hazard = FALSE,
      ngrid = 30, bass = 0, q = 0.99, grid = FALSE,
      col = NULL, lty = NULL, legend.loc = "topright",
      jitter.factor = 1, lwd = 4,
      hazard.only = TRUE, legend.show = TRUE, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	An rhf fit object returned by rhf .
<code>idx</code>	Subject identifiers selecting which cases to plot. Values must match those in <code>unique(x\$id)</code> ; by default the first value is used.
<code>scale.hazard</code>	Logical or numeric. If TRUE, hazards are multiplied by the local time step so they approximate CHF increments. If numeric, hazards are multiplied by the given constant.
<code>ngrid</code>	Number of equally spaced points used when <code>grid = TRUE</code> .
<code>bass</code>	Smoothing parameter passed to <code>stats::supsmu</code> .
<code>q</code>	Quantile used to trim extreme hazard values before smoothing.
<code>grid</code>	If TRUE, overlays smoothed CHF and its derivative.
<code>col</code>	Colors for selected cases. Recycled as needed.
<code>lty</code>	Line types for hazard and CHF curves.
<code>legend.loc</code>	Legend location. Passed to legend .
<code>jitter.factor</code>	Amount of horizontal jitter applied to hazard spikes.
<code>lwd</code>	Line width for hazard spikes.
<code>hazard.only</code>	If TRUE, only the hazard is drawn.
<code>legend.show</code>	If TRUE, show a legend when plotting multiple cases.
<code>...</code>	Additional graphics parameters passed to plot , including optional axis labels such as <code>xlab</code> and <code>ylab</code> .

Details

The function displays out of bag hazard and CHF estimates on the grid `x$time.interest`. Hazards are smoothed using [supsmu](#) after trimming large values for stability. Scaling the hazard allows direct visual comparison with CHF. Plots are drawn to the current device; no model re-estimation is performed.

Value

Invisibly returns NULL. The function is used for its plotting side effects.

Author(s)

Hemant Ishwaran and Udaya B. Kogalur

References

- Ishwaran H. and Kogalur U.B. (2007). Random survival forests for R. *R News*, 7(2): 25–31.
- Ishwaran H., Kogalur U.B., Blackstone E.H. and Lauer M.S. (2008). Random survival forests. *Annals of Applied Statistics*, 2: 841–860.
- Lee D.K., Chen N., and Ishwaran H. (2021). Boosted nonparametric hazards with time dependent covariates. *Annals of Statistics*, 49: 2101–2128.
- Ishwaran H., Lee D.K. and Hsich E.M. (2025). Random hazard forests.

See Also

[hazard.simulation](#), [predict.rhf](#), [rhf](#), [smoothed.hazard.rhf](#)

Examples

```
## -----
## time static peakV02
## -----
data(peakV02, package = "randomForestSRC")
d <- convert.counting(Surv(ttodead, died)~., peakV02)
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

set.seed(1)
o <- rhf(f, d)

oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(1,1))

## plot selected cases
ids <- o$ensemble.id[1:3]
plot(o, idx = ids)

## custom axis label
plot(o, idx = ids, ylab = "my hazard")

## hazard only
plot(o, idx = ids)

## scaled hazard with CHF
plot(o, idx = ids, scale.hazard = TRUE, hazard.only = FALSE)

## auxiliary grid with smoother control
plot(o, idx = ids, grid = TRUE, ngrid = 60, bass = 2, hazard.only = FALSE)
```

```

## multiple cases, no legend
plot(o, idx = o$ensemble.id[1:10], lwd = 0, legend.show = FALSE)

## lowess median smoothed hazard
s <- smoothed.hazard(o) ## default method="median.loess"
plot(s, idx = o$ensemble.id[1:10])
plot(s, idx = o$ensemble.id[1:10], lwd = 0)

par(oldpar)

## -----
## complex simulated time dependent covariate hazards
## -----
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."
sim2 <- hazard.simulation(2)$dta
o2 <- rhf(f, sim2)

oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(1,1))
plot(o2, 1)
par(oldpar)

## -----
## same complex simulation, but using smoothed hazard
## -----
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."
sim2 <- hazard.simulation(2)$dta
o2 <- rhf(f, sim2)

s2.loess <- smoothed.hazard(o2, method="loess")
s2.med.loess <- smoothed.hazard(o2, method="median.loess")

oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(1,1))
plot(o2, 1)
plot(s2.loess, 1)
plot(s2.med.loess, 1)
plot(s2.med.loess, 1:10, lwd = 0)
par(oldpar)

```

Description

Obtain predicted values on test data using a trained random hazard forests.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'rhf'
predict(object, newdata, get.tree = NULL,
        block.size = 10, membership = TRUE, seed = NULL, do.trace = FALSE,...)
```

Arguments

object	An rhf object returned from a previous training call to rhf.
newdata	Test data frame. If omitted, the original training data is used and the full training forest is restored.
get.tree	Optional vector of integer indices specifying which trees to use for ensemble predictions. Defaults to using all trees in the forest.
block.size	Controls how cumulative error rate is reported. To obtain cumulative error every n trees, set this to an integer between 1 and ntree.
membership	Logical flag indicating whether terminal node membership and inbag information should be returned.
seed	Negative integer specifying the random seed for reproducibility.
do.trace	Number of seconds between progress updates printed to the console.
...	Additional optional arguments passed to internal methods.

Details

Returns the predicted values for a random hazard forests.

Value

An object of class `c("rhf", "predict", family)`. The returned list contains the fitted forest together with prediction summaries on the evaluation grid `time.interest`. Important components include:

- `hazard.test`, `chf.test`, `risk.test`, and `int.haz.test`: test-set hazard, cumulative hazard, risk, and integrated-hazard summaries when `newdata` is supplied.
- `hazard.oob`, `chf.oob`, `risk.oob`, and `int.haz.oob`: out-of-bag summaries for the training data.
- `hazard.inbag`, `chf.inbag`, `risk.inbag`, and `int.haz.inbag`: in-bag summaries when available.
- `id`, `yvar`, and `xvar`: identifiers and processed outcome/predictor data used by the returned prediction object.
- `pseudo.membership` and `inbag`: terminal-node membership and inbag information when `membership = TRUE`.
- `forest`: the fitted forest object used to generate the predictions.

If `newdata` is omitted, the function restores predictions for the original training data using the stored forest and returns the same class of object.

Author(s)

Hemant Ishwaran and Udaya B. Kogalur

References

- Ishwaran H. and Kogalur U.B. (2007). Random survival forests for R, *Rnews*, 7(2):25-31.
- Ishwaran H., Kogalur U.B., Blackstone E.H. and Lauer M.S. (2008). Random survival forests, *Ann. App. Statist.*, 2:841-860.
- Lee, D.K. and Chen N. and Ishwaran H (2021). Boosted nonparametric hazards with time-dependent covariates. *Annals of Statistics*, 49: 2101-2128.

See Also

[rhf](#)

Examples

```
## -----
## canonical train/test example (synthetic data)
## -----

simID <- 1
trn <- hazard.simulation(simID)$dta
tst <- hazard.simulation(simID)$dta
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

## training
o <- rhf(f, trn, ntree = 3)
print(o)

## testing
p <- predict(o, tst)
print(p)

## -----
## pbc: train/test example
## -----

library("randomForestSRC")
data(pbc, package = "randomForestSRC")
pbc.raw <- na.omit(pbc)
trn <- sample(1:nrow(pbc.raw), size=nrow(pbc.raw) * .75, replace = FALSE)

d.trn <- convert.counting(Surv(days, status) ~ ., pbc.raw[trn,])
d.tst <- convert.counting(Surv(days, status) ~ ., pbc.raw[-trn,])
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

## train/predict
o <- rhf(f, d.trn)
```

```
print(predict(o, d.tst))

## restore the forest
print(predict(o))
```

print.rhf

Print Output from a Random Hazard Forest Analysis

Description

Print a compact summary of a Random Hazard Forest analysis. This is the default print method for objects produced by `grow` or `predict`.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'rhf'
print(x, digits = 3, label.width = 34, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>rhf</code> created by <code>grow</code> or <code>predict</code> . When <code>predict</code> is called without new data (“restore mode”), the original forest and its OOB risk are returned.
<code>digits</code>	Number of digits used for printed numeric summaries.
<code>label.width</code>	Width used to right-justify labels in the printed output.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments (currently unused).

Details

The printed summary includes basic sample information, forest size characteristics, event counts when available, and risk metrics (in-bag, OOB, or test risk depending on how the object was created).

Value

Returns the object `x` invisibly.

Author(s)

Hemant Ishwaran and Udaya B. Kogalur

 rhf *Random Hazard Forests*

Description

Random Hazard Forest (RHF) is a tree-ensemble survival method that estimates case-specific hazards and cumulative hazard functions on a working time grid and supports time-dependent covariates using counting-process (start/stop) format.

Usage

```
rhf(formula,
    data,
    ntree = 500,
    nsplit = 10,
    treesize = NULL,
    nodesize = NULL,
    block.size = 10,
    bootstrap = c("by.root", "none", "by.user"),
    samptype = c("swor", "swr"),
    samp = NULL,
    case.wt = NULL,
    membership = TRUE,
    sampsize = if (samptype == "swor") function(x){x * .632} else function(x){x},
    xvar.wt = NULL,
    ntime = 50,
    min.events.per.gap = 10,
    seed = NULL,
    do.trace = FALSE,
    ...)
```

Arguments

formula	Model formula specifying the response and predictors.
data	Data frame containing the variables referenced in formula.
ntree	Number of trees to grow in the ensemble.
nsplit	Non-negative integer specifying the number of random split points to consider for each variable. When set to 0, all possible split points are evaluated (deterministic splitting), which may be slower. The default is 10.
treesize	Specifies the desired tree size, defined as the number of terminal nodes. Can be provided as a function of sample size n. If unspecified, an internal default is used.
nodesize	Minimum number of cases required in a terminal node. If not specified, an internal default is used.
block.size	Controls the granularity of cumulative error rate reporting. Setting this to an integer between 1 and ntree yields the cumulative error every block.size trees.

<code>bootstrap</code>	Bootstrap strategy for generating inbag samples. The default is <code>"by.root"</code> , which bootstraps by sampling with or without replacement (default is without; see <code>samptype</code>). If set to <code>"none"</code> , no bootstrapping is performed (OOB predictions and errors are then unavailable). The option <code>"by.user"</code> uses a user-defined bootstrap specified by <code>samp</code> .
<code>samptype</code>	Sampling type used when <code>bootstrap = "by.root"</code> . Options are <code>"swor"</code> (sampling without replacement, default) and <code>"swr"</code> (sampling with replacement).
<code>samp</code>	User-specified bootstrap when <code>bootstrap = "by.user"</code> . Should be an <code>n</code> by <code>ntree</code> array, where each entry gives the number of times a case appears in the inbag sample for a given tree.
<code>case.wt</code>	Non-negative vector of case weights (not required to sum to 1). Higher weights increase the probability of an observation being selected during bootstrapping or subsampling. Using real-valued weights is preferred over integer weights.
<code>membership</code>	Logical flag indicating whether to return terminal node membership and inbag information.
<code>sampsiz</code>	Specifies the size of the bootstrap sample when <code>bootstrap = "by.root"</code> . For sampling without replacement, it represents the requested subsample size (default is 0.632 times the sample size). For sampling with replacement, it equals the sample size. Can be supplied as a numeric value or a function.
<code>xvar.wt</code>	Non-negative vector of variable selection probabilities for splitting. Values do not need to sum to 1. Defaults to uniform selection probability.
<code>ntime</code>	Controls the working time grid used for all ensemble calculations. Can be: <code>ntime >= 1 (integer)</code> : Request approximately <code>ntime</code> grid points chosen from the observed event times. When used with <code>min.events.per.gap</code> , grid points are selected adaptively so that each interval contains at least <code>min.events.per.gap</code> events (when possible); therefore the resulting grid may contain fewer than <code>ntime</code> points when events are sparse (especially in the tail). numeric vector : A user-supplied set of time points. Each value is aligned (snapped) to the nearest observed event time and duplicates are removed. <code>∅</code> or <code>NULL</code> : Use all observed (unique) event times.
<code>min.events.per.gap</code>	Minimum number of observed events required in each time interval when <code>ntime</code> is specified as an integer. Together with <code>ntime</code> , this provides an automatic event-balanced grid that allocates more resolution where events are dense and avoids sparse tail intervals.
<code>seed</code>	Negative integer setting the random seed for reproducibility.
<code>do.trace</code>	Time in seconds between progress updates printed to the console.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments (currently unused).

Details

`rhf()` grows an ensemble of hazard trees for survival outcomes specified in counting-process notation `Surv(id, start, stop, event)`. Predictors may include both time-static variables and time-dependent covariates (TDCs). The fitted object contains case-specific ensemble estimates of the hazard and cumulative hazard on the working time grid `time.interest`.

Random Hazard Forests (RHF) extends Random Survival Forests (RSF) in two key ways: (1) it directly estimates the hazard function, and (2) it accommodates time-dependent covariates.

Tree construction uses best-first splitting (BFS) guided by empirical risk reduction. The risk is based on a smooth convex surrogate for the nonparametric log-likelihood functional, as described in Lee, Chen, and Ishwaran (2021).

Splits can occur on both static and time-dependent covariates (TDCs), but not on time itself. Time splitting is unnecessary, as terminal node hazard estimators already incorporate time appropriately. To encourage selection of time-dependent covariates, use the `xvar.wt` option to weight their importance.

The case-specific hazard estimator uses a "stitched" active-record rule on the `time.interest` grid: each record is treated as active from just after its start time up to (and including) the next record's start time, with the final record extended to the maximum time in `time.interest`.

Data Format: Input data must follow standard counting process format and include the following four columns (column names must match those specified in the counting process formula; see examples):

1. `id`: A unique integer identifier for each individual. Repeated for multiple rows corresponding to that individual.
2. `start`: The start time for each interval. All time values must be scaled to the interval $[0, 1]$.
3. `stop`: The stop time for each interval. Must satisfy `stop > start`.
4. `event`: A binary event indicator (0 = censored, 1 = event). Only one event is allowed per individual; otherwise, the individual is treated as censored.

Use the helper function `convert.counting` to convert conventional survival data to counting process format. See the examples section for further illustration and guidance on data preparation.

Value

An object of class "rhf" containing the fitted forest and related results. Components include (among others) the working time grid `time.interest` and case-specific ensemble estimates of the hazard and cumulative hazard. When bootstrapping is used, these are typically returned as `hazard.oob/chf.oob` (out-of-bag) and `hazard.inbag/chf.inbag` (in-bag). Use `predict.rhf` to obtain estimates for new data.

Author(s)

Hemant Ishwaran and Udaya B. Kogalur

References

- Ishwaran H. and Kogalur U.B. (2007). Random survival forests for R, *Rnews*, 7(2):25-31.
- Ishwaran H., Kogalur U.B., Blackstone E.H. and Lauer M.S. (2008). Random survival forests, *Ann. App. Stat.*, 2:841-860.
- Lee, D.K. and Chen N. and Ishwaran H (2021). Boosted nonparametric hazards with time-dependent covariates. *Annals of Statistics*, 49: 2101-2128.
- Ishwaran H. (2025). *Multivariate Statistics: Classical Foundations and Modern Machine Learning*. Chapman and Hall.
- Ishwaran H., Kogalur U.B., Hsich E.M. and Lee D.K. (2026). Random hazard forests.

See Also

[auct.rhf](#), [plot.rhf](#), [predict.rhf](#), [smoothed.hazard.rhf](#), [tune.treesize.rhf](#)

Examples

```
## -----
## time-static pbc: parameters set for fast CRAN run
## -----

## load the data
data(pbc, package = "randomForestSRC")
## convert the data to counting process
d <- convert.counting(Surv(days, status) ~ ., na.omit(pbc))
## set the formula
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

## rhf call
print((o <- rhf(f, d, ntree = 3)))

## smooth hazard estimator for specific cases
plot(o, idx=c(1,5,10))
plot(o, idx=c(1,5,10), hazard.only=TRUE)
plot(o, idx=c(1,5,10), hazard.only=TRUE, lwd=0)
plot(o, idx=1:10, lwd=0, hazard.only=TRUE, legend.show=FALSE)

## -----
## time-static pbc: compare RHF to RSF
## -----

data(pbc, package = "randomForestSRC")
d <- convert.counting(Surv(days, status) ~ ., na.omit(pbc))

## first we run rhf
o.rhf <- rhf("Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ .", d)
h <- o.rhf$hazard.oob
time <- o.rhf$time.interest
delta <- c(0, diff(time))
H <- apply(h, 1, function(x) {cumsum(delta * x)})
S.rhf <- exp(-H)

## next we run rsf, using the same time.interest grid
o.rsfc <- randomForestSRC::rfsrc(Surv(days, status) ~ ., pbc, ntime = time)
S.rsfc <- t(o.rsfc$survival.oob)

## graphical parameters
bass <- 3
oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(3,2))

## plot survival results
```

```

matplot(time,S.rhf,pch=16)
matplot(time,S.rsfs,pch=16)
matplot(time,S.rhf-S.rsfs,pch=16)
boxplot(S.rhf-S.rsfs,ylab="S.rhf-S.rsfs",xaxt="n",outline=FALSE,range=1e-10)
abline(h=0,lwd=3,col=2)

## plot chf and hazard results
matplot(time,H,ylab="CHF",pch=16)
matplot(time,t(h),ylab="hazard",pch=16,type="n",ylim=c(0,quantile(c(h),.95)))
n0 <- lapply(1:nrow(h), function(i) {
  lines(supsmu(time, h[i,], bass=bass),type="s",col=gray(.4))
})

par(oldpar)

## -----
## TDC illustration (using built in hazard simulation function)
## -----

d1 <- hazard.simulation(1)$dta
d2 <- hazard.simulation(2)$dta
d3 <- hazard.simulation(3)$dta
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

o1 <- rhf(f, d1)
o2 <- rhf(f, d2)
o3 <- rhf(f, d3)

plot(o1,idx=4)
plot(o2,idx=1:3)
plot(o3,idx=2)

## -----
## peakV02: demonstrates time-varying auc
## -----

data(peakV02, package = "randomForestSRC")
d <- convert.counting(Surv(ttodead, died)~., peakV02)
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

## build the forest
o1 <- rhf(f, d, nodesize=1)
o2 <- rhf(f, d, nodesize=15)

## acquire auc-t
a1.chf <- auct.rhf(o1) ## same as auct.rhf(o1, marker = "chf")
a1.haz <- auct.rhf(o1, marker = "haz")
a2.chf <- auct.rhf(o2) ## same as auct.rhf(o2, marker = "chf")
a2.haz <- auct.rhf(o2, marker = "haz")

## print auc-t
print(a1.chf)

```

```

print(a2.chf)
print(a1.haz)
print(a2.haz)

## plot auc-t
oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(2,2))
plot(a1.chf, main="nodesize 1")
plot(a1.haz, main="nodesize 1")
plot(a2.chf, main="nodesize 15")
plot(a2.haz, main="nodesize 15")
par(oldpar)

## -----
## more detailed example of time-varying performance
## -----

d <- hazard.simulation(1)$dta
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."
treesize <- c(10, 30, 100)

oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(3,2))
perf <- lapply(treesize, function(tz) {
  o <- rhf(f, d, treesize=tz, nodesize=1)
  print(o)
  r0 <- list(chf = auct.rhf(o, marker="chf"),
            haz = auct.rhf(o, marker="haz"))
  plot(r0$chf, main=paste("chf marker, treesize=", tz))
  plot(r0$haz, main=paste("hazard marker, treesize=", tz))
  r0
})
par(oldpar)

## -----
## example illustrating tuning the tree size
## using function 'rhf.tune.treesize'
## -----

d <- hazard.simulation(1)$dta
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

tune <- tune.rhf(f, d) ## same as rhf.tune.treesize(f,d)
oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(1,1))
plot(tune)
par(oldpar)

## -----
## example illustrating guided feature selection
## using built in 'xvar.wt.rhf' helper
## -----

d <- hazard.simulation(1)$dta
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

```

```
o <- rhf(f,d)
o.gfs <- rhf(f,d, xvar.wt = xvar.wt.rhf(f, d))

print(o)
print(o.gfs)
```

rhf.news

Show the NEWS file

Description

Show the NEWS file of the **randomForestRHF** package.

Usage

```
rhf.news(...)
```

Arguments

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

Value

None.

Author(s)

Hemant Ishwaran and Udaya B. Kogalur

smoothed.hazard.rhf

Smoothed hazard and cumulative hazard estimates from a random hazard forest

Description

Compute smoothed case-specific hazard curves (and corresponding cumulative hazards) from a Random Hazard Forest (RHF) object. The returned object is a lightweight list designed to be directly usable by [plot.rhf](#).

Usage

```
smoothed.hazard.rhf(
  o,
  method = c("median.loess", "loess"),
  oob = TRUE,
  span = 0.35,
  degree = 1,
  family = NULL,
  eps = 1e-12,
  suppress.warnings = TRUE,
  trace = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

<code>o</code>	A fitted RHF object or predict object.
<code>method</code>	Smoothing strategy. See Details for definitions of "loess" and "median.loess".
<code>oob</code>	By default out-of-bag (OOB) values are returned for RHF objects, but inbag values can be requested by setting this option to FALSE. Does not apply to RHF predict objects.
<code>span</code>	Loess span passed to <code>loess</code> .
<code>degree</code>	Loess degree passed to <code>loess</code> .
<code>family</code>	Loess family passed to <code>loess</code> . Must be "gaussian" or "symmetric". If NULL, defaults to "gaussian" for <code>method="median.loess"</code> and "symmetric" for <code>method="loess"</code> .
<code>eps</code>	Small positive constant added before log-transforming hazards: $\log(h + \text{eps})$.
<code>suppress.warnings</code>	If TRUE, warnings arising from <code>loess()</code> fitting/prediction are suppressed.
<code>trace</code>	If TRUE, print progress messages.

Details

Hazard curves are computed/smoothed on the grid `o$time.interest`. Smoothing is performed on the log-hazard scale: $\log(\text{hazard} + \text{eps})$, and then back-transformed to the hazard scale.

`method="loess"` Applies loess smoothing to an already-constructed hazard matrix stored in `o` (e.g. `o$hazard.oob` and/or `o$hazard.inbag`), independently for each subject.

`method="median.loess"` For each subject and time bin, computes the median across trees of the terminal-node (leaf) log-hazard $\log(h + \text{eps})$ (using a native C routine), then applies loess smoothing to the resulting median log-hazard curve and back-transforms. This method requires the fitted object to retain tree-specific hazard and membership structures (e.g., `o$forest$t.hazard` and related arrays).

Value

A list containing:

- `id`, `ensemble.id`, `yvar`, `time.interest` copied from `o`.

- Depending on target:
 - hazard.oob, chf.oob (out-of-bag), matrices of dimension nSubj x length(time.interest).
 - hazard.inbag, chf.inbag (in-bag), matrices of dimension nSubj x length(time.interest).
 - hazard.test, chf.test (test), matrices of dimension nSubjTest x length(time.interest).

See Also

[plot.rhf](#), [predict.rhf](#), [rhf](#)

Examples

```
## -----
## canonical example using synthetic data
## includes both train/test scenarios
## -----

simID <- 1
trn <- hazard.simulation(simID)$dta
tst <- hazard.simulation(simID)$dta
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

## training/testing
o <- rhf(f, trn)
p <- predict(o, tst)

## default: median(log leaf hazard) + loess
so <- smoothed.hazard(o)
sp <- smoothed.hazard(p)

## the returned object can be passed directly to plot.rhf()
oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(1,1))
plot.rhf(so)
plot.rhf(sp)
par(oldpar)

## -----
## peak vo2
## -----

data(peakV02, package = "randomForestSRC")
d <- convert.counting(Surv(ttodead, died)~., peakV02)
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

## training
o <- rhf(f, d)

oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(1,1))

## median loess
s0 <- smoothed.hazard(o)
```

```
ids <- o$ensemble.id[1:3]
plot.rhf(s0, idx = ids)

## loess smoothing
s1 <- smoothed.hazard(o, method = "loess")
plot.rhf(s1, idx = ids)

par(oldpar)
```

tune.treesize.rhf *Tune tree size for Random Hazard Forests*

Description

Tune the treesize for a Random Hazard Forest using either out-of-bag (OOB) empirical risk or an OOB integrated AUC computed by [auct.rhf](#).

Usage

```
tune.treesize.rhf(
  formula,
  data,
  ntree = 500,
  nsplit = 10,
  nodesize = NULL,
  perf = c("risk", "iAUC"),
  auct.args = NULL,
  lower = 2L,
  upper = NULL,
  C = 3,
  method = c("golden", "bisect"),
  max.evals = 20L,
  bracket.tol = 2L,
  seed = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE,
  forest = TRUE,
  ...
)

tune.iAUC.rhf(
  formula,
  data,
  auct.args = NULL,
  ...
)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'tune.treesize.rhf'
plot(x, ylab = NULL, main = NULL,
     se.band = TRUE, se.mult = 1, ylim = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

formula	Survival formula for <code>rhf</code> , typically <code>Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ..</code>
data	Counting-process data frame containing the variables in formula.
ntree	Number of trees grown at each candidate treesize.
nsplit	Number of random split points tried per variable.
nodesize	Minimum number of events in a terminal node; passed to <code>rhf</code> .
perf	Tuning criterion. "risk" minimizes mean OOB risk; "iAUC" maximizes integrated AUC obtained using <code>auct.rhf</code> .
auct.args	Optional list of arguments passed to <code>auct.rhf</code> when <code>perf = "iAUC"</code> .
lower	Smallest treesize considered.
upper	Largest treesize considered.
C	Multiplier used when computing the default upper bound if <code>upper</code> is NULL.
method	Discrete search strategy: "golden" (golden-section search) or "bisect" (bisection-style search).
max. evals	Maximum number of distinct treesize values evaluated by the search.
bracket.tol	Tolerance for the bracketing interval width used by the search algorithms.
seed	Optional random seed for reproducible comparisons across tree sizes.
verbose	Logical; if TRUE, print progress messages when evaluating new treesize values.
forest	Logical; if TRUE, return the RHF object at the best treesize.
...	Additional arguments passed to <code>rhf</code> .
x, ylab, main, se.band, se.mult, ylim	Arguments to customize plot.

Details

The alias `tune.rhf` is provided for convenience.

Repeatedly fits a hazard forest with different values of `treesize` and selects the value that optimizes the chosen criterion `perf`. When `perf = "risk"`, the criterion is the mean OOB risk. When `perf = "iAUC"`, `auct.rhf` is applied to each fit and the criterion is $1 - \text{iAUC.uno}$. `tune.iAUC` is a wrapper around `tune.rhf` with `perf = "iAUC"`, using default `auct.rhf` settings when `auct.args = NULL`.

Value

An object of class "tune.treesize.rhf" with components

- `best.size`: optimal treesize;
- `best.err`: minimal criterion value (mean OOB risk if `perf = "risk"`, or $1 - \text{iAUC.uno}$ if `perf = "iAUC"`);

- path: data frame with evaluated treesize values and corresponding criterion values (and an iAUC column when perf = "iAUC");
- forest: RHF fit at best.size when forest = TRUE.

See Also

[rhf](#), [auct.rhf](#)

Examples

```
## -----
## Example: tuning treesize by OOB empirical risk
## -----

set.seed(7)
d <- hazard.simulation(1)$dta
f <- "Surv(id, start, stop, event) ~ ."

## tune.rhf is an alias for tune.treesize.rhf
tuneRisk <- tune.rhf(f, d) ## same as tune.treesize.rhf(f, d)

oldpar <- par(mfrow = c(1, 1))
plot(tuneRisk)
par(oldpar)

tuneRisk$best.size # treesize minimizing mean OOB risk
tuneRisk$best.err

## Access the tuned forest and refit AUC diagnostics if desired
best.forest <- tuneRisk$forest
a.risk <- auct.rhf(best.forest)
print(a.risk$iAUC.uno)

## -----
## Example: tuning treesize by iAUC
## -----

set.seed(7)
tuneiAUC <- tune.iAUC(f, d)

oldpar <- par(mfrow = c(1, 1))
plot(tuneiAUC)
par(oldpar)

print(tuneiAUC$best.size)
print(1 - tuneiAUC$best.err)

best.forest.iauc <- tuneiAUC$forest
a.iauc <- auct.rhf(best.forest.iauc)
print(1 - a.iauc$iAUC.uno)
```

```
## -----  
## Example: tuning treesize by iAUC with bootstrap s.e.  
## -----  
  
set.seed(7)  
tuneiAUC.boot <- tune.iAUC(f, d, auct.args=list(bootstrap.rep=25))  
oldpar <- par(mfrow = c(1, 1))  
plot(tuneiAUC.boot)  
par(oldpar)  
  
## -----  
## Example: tuning by hazard-based incident AUC  
## -----  
  
set.seed(7)  
tuneHazInc <- tune.iAUC(  
  f, d,  
  auct.args = list(  
    marker      = "hazard",  
    method      = "incident"  
  )  
)  
  
oldpar <- par(mfrow = c(1, 1))  
plot(tuneHazInc)  
par(oldpar)  
  
print(tuneHazInc$best.size)  
print(tuneHazInc$best.err)  
  
## Confirm the tuned incident AUC on the selected forest  
best.forest.haz <- tuneHazInc$forest  
aHazInc <- auct.rhf(  
  best.forest.haz,  
  marker = "hazard",  
  method = "incident"  
)  
print(aHazInc)  
print(1 - aHazInc$iAUC.uno)
```

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