# Package 'RandomForestsGLS'

July 21, 2025

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Type Package
Title Random Forests for Dependent Data
Version 0.1.5
Maintainer Arkajyoti Saha <arkajyotisaha93@gmail.com></arkajyotisaha93@gmail.com>
Author Arkajyoti Saha [aut, cre], Sumanta Basu [aut], Abhirup Datta [aut]
<b>Depends</b> R ( $>= 3.3.0$ )
Imports BRISC, parallel, stats, matrixStats, randomForest, pbapply
<b>Suggests</b> knitr, rmarkdown, ggplot2, testthat (>= 2.1.0)
<b>Description</b> Fits non-linear regression models on dependant data with Generalised Least Square (GLS) based Random Forest (RF-GLS) detailed in Saha, Basu and Datta (2021) <doi:10.1080 01621459.2021.1950003="">.</doi:10.1080>
License GPL (>= 2)
<pre>URL https://github.com/ArkajyotiSaha/RandomForestsGLS</pre>
BugReports https://github.com/ArkajyotiSaha/RandomForestsGLS/issues
Encoding UTF-8
VignetteBuilder knitr
NeedsCompilation yes
Repository CRAN
<b>Date/Publication</b> 2024-10-02 06:40:02 UTC
Contents
RFGLS_estimate_spatial  RFGLS_estimate_timeseries  RFGLS_predict  RFGLS_predict_spatial
Index 1

RFGLS\_estimate\_spatial

Function for estimation in spatial data with RF-GLS

#### **Description**

The function RFGLS\_estimate\_spatial fits univariate non-linear spatial regression models for spatial data using RF-GLS in Saha et al. 2020. RFGLS\_estimate\_spatial uses the sparse Cholesky representation of Vecchia's likelihood (Vecchia, 1988) developed in Datta et al., 2016 and Saha & Datta, 2018. The fitted Random Forest (RF) model is used later for prediction via the RFGLS\_predict and RFGLS\_predict\_spatial.

Some code blocks are borrowed from the R packages: spNNGP: Spatial Regression Models for Large Datasets using Nearest Neighbor Gaussian Process

https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=spNNGP and randomForest: Breiman and Cutler's Random Forests for Classification and Regression

https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=randomForest.

#### Usage

#### **Arguments**

coords	an $n \times 2$ matrix of the observation coordinates in $R^2$ (e.g., easting and northing).
У	an $n$ length vector of response at the observed coordinates.
Χ	an $n \times p$ matrix of the covariates in the observation coordinates.
Xtest	an $ntest \times p$ matrix of covariates for prediction locations. Its Structure should be identical (including intercept) with that of covariates provided for estimation purpose in X. If NULL, will use X as Xtest. Default value is NULL.
nrnodes	the maximum number of nodes a tree can have. Default choice leads to the deepest tree contigent on nthsize. For significantly large $n$ , one needs to bound it for growing shallow trees which trades off efficiency for computation time.
nthsize	minimum size of leaf nodes. We recommend not setting this value too small, as that will lead to very deep trees that takes a lot of time to be built and can produce unstable estimaes. Default value is 20.

mtry number of variables randomly sampled at each partition as a candidate split

direction. We recommend using the value p/3 where p is the number of variables

in X. Default value is 1.

pinv\_choice dictates the choice of method for obtaining the pseudoinverse involved in the

cost function and node representative evaluation. if pinv\_choice = 0, SVD is used (slower but more stable), if pinv\_choice = 1, orthogonal decomposition (faster, may produce unstable results if nthsize is too low) is used. Default

value is 1.

n\_omp number of threads to be used, value can be more than 1 if source code is com-

piled with OpenMP support. Default is 1.

ntree number of trees to be grown. This value should not be too small. Default value

is 50.

h number of core to be used in parallel computing setup for bootstrap samples. If

h = 1, there is no parallelization. Default value is 1.

sigma.sq value of sigma square. Default value is 1. tau.sq value of tau square. Default value is 0.1.

phi value of phi. Default value is 5.

nu value of nu, only required for matern covariance model. Default value is 0.5.

n.neighbors number of neighbors used in the NNGP. Default value is 15.

cov.model keyword that specifies the covariance function to be used in modelling the spa-

tial dependence structure among the observations. Supported keywords are: "exponential", "matern", "spherical", and "gaussian" for exponential, matern, spherical and gaussian covariance function respectively. Default value is "expo-

nential".

search.type keyword that specifies type of nearest neighbor search algorithm to be used.

Supported keywords are: "tree" and "brute". Both of them provide the same

result, though "tree" should be faster. Default value is "tree".

param\_estimate if TRUE, using the residuals obtained from fitting a classical RF with default

options and nodesize = nthsize, will estimate the coefficients corresponding to cov.model from BRISC\_estimate with the deafult options. Default value is

FALSE.

verbose if TRUE, model specifications along with information regarding OpenMP support

and progress of the algorithm is printed to the screen. Otherwise, nothing is

printed to the screen. Default value is FALSE.

#### Value

A list comprising:

P\_matrix an  $n \times ntree$  matrix of zero indexed resamples. t-th column denote the n re-

samples used in the t-th tree.

predicted\_matrix

an  $ntest \times ntree$  matrix of predictions. t-th column denote the predictions at

ntest datapoints obtained from the t-th tree.

```
predicted preducted values at the ntest prediction points. Average (rowMeans) of the treewise predctions in predicted_matrix,

X the matrix X.

y the vector y.

RFGLS_Object object required for prediction.
```

#### Author(s)

```
Arkajyoti Saha <arkajyotisaha93@gmail.com>,
Sumanta Basu <sumbose@cornell.edu>,
Abhirup Datta <abhidatta@jhu.edu>
```

#### References

Saha, A., Basu, S., & Datta, A. (2020). Random Forests for dependent data. arXiv preprint arXiv:2007.15421.

Saha, A., & Datta, A. (2018). BRISC: bootstrap for rapid inference on spatial covariances. Stat, e184, DOI: 10.1002/sta4.184.

Datta, A., S. Banerjee, A.O. Finley, and A.E. Gelfand. (2016) Hierarchical Nearest-Neighbor Gaussian process models for large geostatistical datasets. Journal of the American Statistical Association, 111:800-812.

Andrew Finley, Abhirup Datta and Sudipto Banerjee (2017). spNNGP: Spatial Regression Models for Large Datasets using Nearest Neighbor Gaussian Processes. R package version 0.1.1. https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=spNNGP

Andy Liaw, and Matthew Wiener (2015). randomForest: Breiman and Cutler's Random Forests for Classification and Regression. R package version 4.6-14. https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=randomForest

#### **Examples**

```
rmvn <- function(n, mu = 0, V = matrix(1)){
  p <- length(mu)
  if(any(is.na(match(dim(V),p))))
    stop("Dimension not right!")
  D <- chol(V)
  t(matrix(rnorm(n*p), ncol=p)%*%D + rep(mu,rep(n,p)))
}

set.seed(1)
  n <- 200
  coords <- cbind(runif(n,0,1), runif(n,0,1))

set.seed(2)
  x <- as.matrix(rnorm(n),n,1)

sigma.sq = 1
  phi = 5
  tau.sq = 0.1</pre>
```

```
D <- as.matrix(dist(coords))
R <- exp(-phi*D)
w <- rmvn(1, rep(0,n), sigma.sq*R)

y <- rnorm(n, 10*sin(pi * x) + w, sqrt(tau.sq))
estimation_result <- RFGLS_estimate_spatial(coords, y, x, ntree = 10)</pre>
```

RFGLS\_estimate\_timeseries

Function for estimation in time-series data with RF-GLS

#### **Description**

The function RFGLS\_estimate\_spatial fits univariate non-linear regression models for time-series data using a RF-GLS in Saha et al. 2020. RFGLS\_estimate\_spatial uses the sparse Cholesky representation corresponsinding to AR(q) process. The fitted Random Forest (RF) model is used later for prediction via the RFGLS-predict.

Some code blocks are borrowed from the R packages: spNNGP: Spatial Regression Models for Large Datasets using Nearest Neighbor Gaussian Processes

https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=spNNGP and randomForest: Breiman and Cutler's Random Forests for Classification and Regression

https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=randomForest.

#### Usage

# **Arguments**

y an n length vector of response at the observed time points.

X an  $n \times p$  matrix of the covariates in the observation time points.

Xtest an  $ntest \times p$  matrix of covariates for prediction. Its Structure should be identical

(including intercept) with that of covariates provided for estimation purpose in

X. If NULL, will use X as Xtest. Default value is NULL.

nrnodes the maximum number of nodes a tree can have. Default choice leads to the

deepest tree contigent on nthsize. For significantly large n, one needs to bound it for growing shallow trees which trades off efficiency for computation time.

nthsize minimum size of leaf nodes. We recommend not setting this value too small,

as that will lead to very deep trees that takes a lot of time to be built and can

produce unstable estimaes. Default value is 20.

mtry number of variables randomly sampled at each partition as a candidate split

direction. We recommend using the value p/3 where p is the number of variables

in X. Default value is 1.

pinv\_choice dictates the choice of method for obtaining the pseudoinverse involved in the

cost function and node representative evaluation. if pinv\_choice = 0, SVD is used (slower but more stable), if pinv\_choice = 1, orthogonal decomposition (faster, may produce unstable results if nthsize is too low) is used. Default

value is 1.

n\_omp number of threads to be used, value can be more than 1 if source code is com-

piled with OpenMP support. Default is 1.

ntree number of trees to be grown. This value should not be too small. Default value

is 50.

h number of core to be used in parallel computing setup for bootstrap samples. If

h = 1, there is no parallelization. Default value is 1.

lag\_params q length vector of AR coefficients. If the parameters need to be estimated from

AR(q) process, should be any numeric vector of length q. For notations please

see arima. Default value is 0.5.

variance variance of the white noise in temporal error. The function estimate is not af-

fected by this. Default value is 1.

param\_estimate if TRUE, using the residuals obtained from fitting a classical RF default options

and nodesize = nthsize, will estimate the coefficients corresponding to AR(q) from arima with the option, include.mean = FALSE. Default value is FALSE.

verbose if TRUE, model specifications along with information regarding OpenMP support

and progress of the algorithm is printed to the screen. Otherwise, nothing is

printed to the screen. Default value is FALSE.

#### Value

A list comprising:

P\_matrix an  $n \times ntree$  matrix of zero indexed resamples. t-th column denote the n re-

samples used in the t-th tree.

predicted\_matrix

an  $ntest \times ntree$  matrix of predictions. t-th column denote the predictions at

ntest datapoints obtained from the t-th tree.

predicted preducted values at the *ntest* prediction points. Average (rowMeans) of the

treewise predctions in predicted\_matrix,

X the matrix X. y the vector y.

RFGLS\_Object object required for prediction.

#### Author(s)

```
Arkajyoti Saha <arkajyotisaha93@gmail.com>,
Sumanta Basu <sumbose@cornell.edu>,
Abhirup Datta <abhidatta@jhu.edu>
```

#### References

Saha, A., Basu, S., & Datta, A. (2020). Random Forests for dependent data. arXiv preprint arXiv:2007.15421.

Saha, A., & Datta, A. (2018). BRISC: bootstrap for rapid inference on spatial covariances. Stat, e184, DOI: 10.1002/sta4.184.

Andy Liaw, and Matthew Wiener (2015). randomForest: Breiman and Cutler's Random Forests for Classification and Regression. R package version 4.6-14.

https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=randomForest

Andrew Finley, Abhirup Datta and Sudipto Banerjee (2017). spNNGP: Spatial Regression Models for Large Datasets using Nearest Neighbor Gaussian Processes. R package version 0.1.1. https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=spNNGP

#### **Examples**

```
rmvn <- function(n, mu = 0, V = matrix(1)){</pre>
  p <- length(mu)</pre>
  if(any(is.na(match(dim(V),p))))
    stop("Dimension not right!")
  D <- chol(V)
  t(matrix(rnorm(n*p), ncol=p)%*%D + rep(mu,rep(n,p)))
}
set.seed(2)
n <- 200
x <- as.matrix(rnorm(n),n,1)</pre>
sigma.sq <- 1
rho <- 0.5
set.seed(3)
b <- rho
s <- sqrt(sigma.sq)</pre>
eps = arima.sim(list(order = c(1,0,0), ar = b),
                 n = n, rand.gen = rnorm, sd = s)
y \leftarrow eps + 10*sin(pi * x)
estimation_result <- RFGLS_estimate_timeseries(y, x, ntree = 10)</pre>
```

8 RFGLS\_predict

RFGLS_predict	Prediction of mean function with RF-GLS
---------------	---

#### **Description**

The function RFGLS\_predict predicts the mean function at a given set of covariates. It uses a fitted RF-GLS model in Saha et al. 2020 to obtain the predictions.

Some code blocks are borrowed from the R package: randomForest: Breiman and Cutler's Random Forests for Classification and Regression

https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=randomForest.

# Usage

```
RFGLS_predict(RFGLS_out, Xtest, h = 1, verbose = FALSE)
```

#### **Arguments**

RFGLS\_out an object obtained from RFGLS\_estimate\_spatial or

RFGLS\_estimate\_timeseries.

Xtest an  $ntest \times p$  matrix of covariates for prediction. Its Structure should be identical

(including intercept) with that of covariates provided for estimation purpose in

X in RFGLS\_out.

h number of core to be used in parallel computing setup for bootstrap samples. If

h = 1, there is no parallelization. Default value is 1.

verbose if TRUE, model specifications along with information regarding OpenMP support

and progress of the algorithm is printed to the screen. Otherwise, nothing is

printed to the screen. Default value is FALSE.

# Value

#### A list comprising:

predicted\_matrix

an  $ntest \times ntree$  matrix of predictions. t-th column denote the predictions at

ntest datapoints obtained from the t-th tree.

predicted preducted values at the *ntest* prediction points. Average (rowMeans) of the

treewise predctions in predicted\_matrix

# Author(s)

Arkajyoti Saha <arkajyotisaha93@gmail.com>, Sumanta Basu <sumbose@cornell.edu>, Abhirup Datta <abhidatta@jhu.edu>

#### References

Saha, A., Basu, S., & Datta, A. (2020). Random Forests for dependent data. arXiv preprint arXiv:2007.15421.

Andy Liaw, and Matthew Wiener (2015). randomForest: Breiman and Cutler's Random Forests for Classification and Regression. R package version 4.6-14. https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=randomForest

# **Examples**

```
rmvn <- function(n, mu = 0, V = matrix(1)){</pre>
  p <- length(mu)</pre>
  if(any(is.na(match(dim(V),p))))
    stop("Dimension not right!")
  D <- chol(V)
  t(matrix(rnorm(n*p), ncol=p)%*%D + rep(mu, rep(n,p)))
}
set.seed(2)
n <- 200
x <- as.matrix(rnorm(n),n,1)</pre>
sigma.sq <- 1
rho <- 0.5
set.seed(3)
b <- rho
s <- sqrt(sigma.sq)</pre>
eps = arima.sim(list(order = c(1,0,0), ar = b),
                 n = n, rand.gen = rnorm, sd = s)
y \leftarrow eps + 10*sin(pi * x[,1])
estimation_result <- RFGLS_estimate_timeseries(y, x, ntree = 10)</pre>
Xtest <- matrix(seq(0,1, by = 1/1000), 1001, 1)
RFGLS_predict <- RFGLS_predict(estimation_result, Xtest)</pre>
```

RFGLS\_predict\_spatial Spatial response prediction at new location with RF-GLS

# **Description**

The function RFGLS\_predict\_spatial performs fast prediction on a set of new locations by combining non-linear mean estimate from a fitted RF-GLS model in Saha et al. 2020 with spatial kriging estimate obtained by using Nearest Neighbor Gaussian Processes (NNGP) (Datta et al., 2016).

Some code blocks are borrowed from the R packages: spNNGP: Spatial Regression Models for Large Datasets using Nearest Neighbor Gaussian Processes

https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=spNNGP and randomForest: Breiman and Cutler's Random

Forests for Classification and Regression https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=randomForest.

#### Usage

#### **Arguments**

RFGLS\_out an object obtained from RFGLS\_estimate\_spatial.

coords.0 the spatial coordinates corresponding to prediction locations.

Its structure should be same as that of coords in BRISC\_estimation. Default

covariate value is a column of 1 to adjust for the mean (intercept).

Xtest an  $ntest \times p$  matrix of covariates for prediction. Its Structure should be identical

(including intercept) with that of covariates provided for estimation purpose in

X in RFGLS\_out.

h number of core to be used in parallel computing setup for bootstrap samples. If

h = 1, there is no parallelization. Default value is 1.

verbose if TRUE, model specifications along with information regarding OpenMP support

and progress of the algorithm is printed to the screen. Otherwise, nothing is

printed to the screen. Default value is FALSE.

#### Value

A list comprising:

prediction predicted spatial response corresponding to Xtest and coords.0.

#### Author(s)

Arkajyoti Saha <arkajyotisaha93@gmail.com>, Sumanta Basu <sumbose@cornell.edu>, Abhirup Datta <abhidatta@jhu.edu>

# References

Saha, A., Basu, S., & Datta, A. (2020). Random Forests for dependent data. arXiv preprint arXiv:2007.15421.

Saha, A., & Datta, A. (2018). BRISC: bootstrap for rapid inference on spatial covariances. Stat, e184, DOI: 10.1002/sta4.184.

Datta, A., S. Banerjee, A.O. Finley, and A.E. Gelfand. (2016) Hierarchical Nearest-Neighbor Gaussian process models for large geostatistical datasets. Journal of the American Statistical Association, 111:800-812.

Andrew Finley, Abhirup Datta and Sudipto Banerjee (2017). spNNGP: Spatial Regression Models for Large Datasets using Nearest Neighbor Gaussian Processes. R package version 0.1.1. https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=spNNGP

Andy Liaw, and Matthew Wiener (2015). randomForest: Breiman and Cutler's Random Forests for Classification and Regression. R package version 4.6-14. https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=randomForest

# **Examples**

```
rmvn <- function(n, mu = 0, V = matrix(1)){
  p <- length(mu)</pre>
  if(any(is.na(match(dim(V),p))))
    stop("Dimension not right!")
  D <- chol(V)
  t(matrix(rnorm(n*p), ncol=p)%*%D + rep(mu,rep(n,p)))
}
set.seed(1)
n <- 250
coords <- cbind(runif(n,0,1), runif(n,0,1))</pre>
set.seed(2)
x <- as.matrix(rnorm(n),n,1)</pre>
sigma.sq = 1
phi = 5
tau.sq = 0.1
D <- as.matrix(dist(coords))</pre>
R \leftarrow exp(-phi*D)
w \leftarrow rmvn(1, rep(0,n), sigma.sq*R)
y \leftarrow rnorm(n, 10*sin(pi * x) + w, sqrt(tau.sq))
estimation_result <- RFGLS_estimate_spatial(coords[1:200,], y[1:200],</pre>
                                    matrix(x[1:200,],200,1), ntree = 10)
prediction_result <- RFGLS_predict_spatial(estimation_result,</pre>
                              coords[201:250,], matrix(x[201:250,],50,1))
```

# **Index**

```
* model
    RFGLS_estimate_spatial, 2
    RFGLS_estimate_timeseries, 5
    RFGLS_predict, 8
    RFGLS_predict_spatial, 9

RFGLS_estimate_spatial, 2

RFGLS_estimate_timeseries, 5

RFGLS_predict, 8

RFGLS_predict_spatial, 9
```