

# Package ‘SPQR’

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**Title** Semi-Parametric Quantile Regression

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**Description** Methods for flexible estimation of conditional density and quantile function, as well as model agnostic tools for analyzing quantile covariate effect and variable importance. The estimation method implements the semi-parametric quantile regression model described in Xu and Reich (2021) <[doi:10.1111/biom.13576](https://doi.org/10.1111/biom.13576)>, and the model agnostic tools extend accumulative local effects (ALE) to quantile regression setting.

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autoplot.SPQR	<i>autoplot method for class SPQR</i>
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---

### Description

The function calls one of the following functions: `plotEstimator()`, `plotGOF()`, `plotMCMCtrace()`, `plotQALE()`, `plotQVI()`

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SPQR'
autoplot(object, output = c("GOF", "estimator", "trace", "QALE", "QVI"), ...)
```

### Arguments

object	An object of class SPQR.
output	A character indicating the type of plot to be returned. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"GOF": goodness of fit test by comparing the quantiles of probability integral transform (PIT) to that of uniform distribution.</li> <li>"estimator": visualization of various estimates, including probability density function (PDF), cumulative density function (CDF) and quantile function (QF).</li> <li>"trace": diagnostic trace plots for SPQR fitted with method = "MCMC".</li> <li>"QALE": quantile accumulative local effects (ALE) for visualizing covariate effects on predicted quantiles.</li> </ul>

- "QVI": quantile variable importance comparison.
- ... arguments passed into specific plot function, see [plotEstimator\(\)](#), [plotGOF\(\)](#), [plotMCMCtrace\(\)](#), [plotQALE\(\)](#) or [plotQVI\(\)](#) for required arguments.

**Value**

a ggplot object

**Examples**

```
set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,
           normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## Goodness-of-fit test
autoplot(fit, output = "GOF")
```

---

coef.SPQR

*coef method for class SPQR*


---

**Description**

Computes the estimated spline coefficients of a SPQR class object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'SPQR'
coef(object, X, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class SPQR.
X	The covariate vector/matrix for which the coefficient is calculated.
...	Other arguments.

**Value**

A  $NROW(X)$  by  $K$  matrix containing values of the estimated coefficient, where  $K$  is the number of basis functions.

## Examples

```
set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,
           normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)
coef(fit, X = 0)
```

---

createFolds.SPQR	<i>generate cross-validation folds</i>
------------------	--

---

## Description

Helper function to generate cross-validation folds that can be used by `cv.SPQR`.

## Usage

```
createFolds.SPQR(Y, nfold, stratified = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

Y	The response vector.
nfold	The number of cross-validation folds.
stratified	If TRUE, stratified folds based on quantiles of Y are generated.

## Value

A list of size `nfold` containing indices of the observations for each fold.

## Examples

```
set.seed(919)
n <- 1000
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
folds <- createFolds.SPQR(Y, nfold = 5)
```

cv.SPQR

*cross-validation for SPQR estimator***Description**

Fits SPQR using either MLE or MAP method and computes K-fold cross-validation error based on pre-computed folds.

**Usage**

```
cv.SPQR(
  folds,
  X,
  Y,
  n.knots = 10,
  n.hidden = 10,
  activation = c("tanh", "relu", "sigmoid"),
  method = c("MLE", "MAP", "MCMC"),
  prior = c("ARD", "GP", "GSM"),
  hyperpar = list(),
  control = list(),
  normalize = FALSE,
  verbose = TRUE,
  seed = NULL,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>folds</code>	A list of CV folds, possibly that generated from <code>createFolds.SPQR()</code> .
<code>X</code>	The covariate matrix (without intercept column)
<code>Y</code>	The response vector.
<code>n.knots</code>	The number of basis functions. Default: 10.
<code>n.hidden</code>	A vector specifying the number of hidden neurons in each hidden layer. Default: 10.
<code>activation</code>	The hidden layer activation. Either "tanh" (default) or "relu".
<code>method</code>	Method for estimating SPQR. One of "MLE", "MAP" (default) or "MCMC".
<code>prior</code>	The prior model for variance hyperparameters. One of "GP", "ARD" (default) or "GSM".
<code>hyperpar</code>	A list of named hyper-prior hyperparameters to use instead of the default values, including <code>a_lambda</code> , <code>b_lambda</code> , <code>a_sigma</code> and <code>b_sigma</code> . The default value is 0.001 for all four hyperparameters.
<code>control</code>	A list of named and method-dependent parameters that allows finer control of the behavior of the computational approaches. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parameters for MLE and MAP methods</li> </ol>

- `use.GPU` If TRUE GPU computing will be used if `torch::cuda_is_available()` returns TRUE. Default: FALSE.
- `lr` The learning rate used by the Adam optimizer, i.e., `torch::optim_adam()`.
- `dropout` A length two vector specifying the dropout probabilities in the input and hidden layers respectively. The default is `c(0, 0)` indicating no dropout.
- `batchnorm` If TRUE batch normalization will be used after each hidden activation.
- `epochs` The number of passes of the entire training dataset in gradient descent optimization. If `early.stopping.epochs` is used then this is the maximum number of passes. Default: 200.
- `batch.size` The size of mini batches for gradient calculation. Default: 128.
- `valid.pct` The fraction of data used as validation set. Default: 0.2.
- `early.stopping.epochs` The number of epochs before stopping if the validation loss does not decrease. Default: 10.
- `print.every.epochs` The number of epochs before next training progress is printed. Default: 10.
- `save.path` The path to save the fitted torch model. By default a folder named "SPQR\_model" is created in the current working directory to store the model.
- `save.name` The name of the file to save the fitted torch model. Default is "SPQR.model.pt".

## 2. Parameters for MCMC method

These parameters are similar to those in `rstan::stan()`. Detailed explanations can be found in the Stan reference manual.

- `algorithm` The sampling algorithm; "HMC": Hamiltonian Monte Carlo with dual-averaging, "NUTS": No-U-Turn sampler (default).
- `iter` The number of MCMC iterations (including warmup). Default: 2000.
- `warmup` The number of warm-up/burn-in iterations for step-size and mass matrix adaptation. Default: 500.
- `thin` The number of iterations before saving next post-warmup samples. Default: 1.
- `stepsize` The discretization interval/step-size  $\epsilon$  of leap-frog integrator. Default is NULL which indicates that it will be adaptively selected during warm-up iterations.
- `metric` The type of mass matrix; "unit": diagonal matrix of ones, "diag": diagonal matrix with positive diagonal entries estimated during warmup iterations (default), "dense": a dense, symmetric positive definite matrix with entries estimated during warm-up iterations.
- `delta` The target Metropolis acceptance rate. Default: 0.9.
- `max.treedepth` The maximum tree depth in NUTS. Default: 6.
- `int.time` The integration time in HMC. The number of leap-frog steps is calculated as  $L_\epsilon = \lfloor t/\epsilon \rfloor$ . Default: 0.3.

`normalize`

If TRUE, all covariates will be normalized to take values between [0,1].

verbose	If TRUE (default), training progress will be printed.
seed	Random number generation seed.
...	other parameters to pass to control.

**Value**

control	the list of all control parameters.
cve	the cross-validation error.
fold	the CV folds.

**See Also**

[createFolds.SPQR\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
folds <- createFolds.SPQR(Y, nfold = 5)
## compute 5-fold CV error
cv.out <- cv.SPQR(folds=folds, X=X, Y=Y, method="MLE",
                 normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)
```

---

load.SPQR

*load saved SPQR model*


---

**Description**

Load saved SPQR model from a designated path. The function first loads the .SPQR file that stores the SPQR object. It then checks whether the SPQR model is fitted with `method = "MCMC"`. If not, it also loads the .pt file storing the torch model with the same name and attach it to the SPQR object.

**Usage**

```
load.SPQR(name = stop("`name` must be specified"), path = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

name	The name of the saved object excluding extension.
path	The path to look for the saved object. Default is the current working directory.

**Value**

An object of class SPQR.

## Examples

```

set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)
# save.SPQR(fit, name = "mcmc_fit")
# fit <- load.SPQR("mcmc_fit")

```

---

plotEstimator

*plot SPQR estimators*

---

## Description

Computes and plots the estimated PDF/CDF/QF curves.

## Usage

```
plotEstimator(object, X, ...)
```

## Arguments

object	An object of class "SPQR"
X	A row vector indicating covariate values for which the conditional PDF/CDF/QF is computed and plotted.
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">predict.SPQR</a>
nY	An integer number indicating length of grid when Y is not specified. Default: 101.
type	The function to be predicted; "PDF": probability density function, "CDF": cumulative distribution function, and "QF": the quantile function (default).
tau	The grid of quantiles for which the quantile function is computed. Default: <code>seq(0.1, 0.9, 0.1)</code> .
ci.level	The credible level for computing the pointwise credible intervals. The default is 0 indicating no credible intervals should be computed.
getAll	If TRUE, extracts all posterior samples of the prediction. Default: FALSE.

## Value

A ggplot object.



**Examples**

```

set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,
           normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## plot estimated PDF
plotEstimator(fit, type = "PDF", X = 0)

```

---

plotGOF

*goodness-of-fit test for SPQR estimator*


---

**Description**

Performs a goodness-of-fit test for the estimated conditional probability density function (PDF) using probability inverse transformation method.

**Usage**

```
plotGOF(object, getAll = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class SPQR.
getAll	If TRUE and SPQR is fitted with method = "MCMC", plots all posterior samples of Q-Q lines. Default: FALSE.

**Value**

A ggplot object.

**Examples**

```

set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,
           normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## Goodness-of-fit test

```

```
plotGOF(fit)
```

---

```
plotMCMCtrace
```

```
plot MCMC trace plots
```

---

### Description

Show trace plot of the log-likelihood or estimates, of a "SPQR" class object fitted using the MCMC method

### Usage

```
plotMCMCtrace(
  object,
  target = c("loglik", "PDF", "CDF", "QF"),
  X = NULL,
  Y = NULL,
  tau = 0.5,
  window = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

object	An object of class SPQR.
target	A character indicating the statistic/estimate for which traceplot should be plotted; "loglik": log-likelihood (default), "PDF": probability density function, "CDF": cumulative density function, "QF": quantile function.
X	If target != "loglik", a row vector specifying the covariate values for which the estimates are computed. Default: NULL.
Y	If target = "PDF" or target = "CDF" a scalar specifying the response value for which the estimates are computed. Default: NULL.
tau	If target != "QF", a scalar specifying the quantile level for which the estimates are computed. Default: 0.5.
window	A vector specifying the range of index of the MCMC samples for which the traceplot should be plotted. Default is NULL indicating that the whole chain is plotted.

### Value

A ggplot object.

**Examples**

```

set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,
           normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## trace plot for log-likelihood
plotMCMCtrace(fit, target = "loglik")

```

---

plotQALE

*plot accumulated local effects (ALE)*


---

**Description**

Computes and plots the quantile ALEs of a SPQR class object. The function plots the ALE main effects across tau for a single covariate using line plots, and the ALE interaction effects between two covariates across tau using contour plots.

**Usage**

```
plotQALE(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class "SPQR".
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">QALE</a>
var.index	a numeric scalar or length-two vector of indices of the covariates for which the ALEs will be calculated. When <code>length(var.index) = 1</code> , the function computes the main effect for <code>X[, var.index]</code> . When <code>length(var.index) = 2</code> , the function computes the interaction effect between <code>X[, var.index[1]]</code> and <code>X[, var.index[2]]</code> .
tau	The quantiles of interest.
n.bins	the maximum number of intervals into which the covariate range is divided when calculating the ALEs. The actual number of intervals depends on the number of unique values in <code>X[, var.index]</code> . When <code>length(var.index) = 2</code> , <code>n.bins</code> is applied to both covariates.
ci.level	The credible level for computing the pointwise credible intervals for ALE when <code>length(var.index) = 1</code> . The default is 0 indicating no credible intervals should be computed.
getAll	If TRUE and <code>length(var.index) = 1</code> , extracts all posterior samples of ALE.

`pred.fun` A function that will be used instead of `predict.SPQR()` for computing predicted quantiles given covariates. This can be useful when the user wants to compare the QALE calculated using SPQR to that using other quantile regression models, or maybe that using the true model in a simulation study.

### Value

A ggplot object.

### Examples

```
set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- runif(n,0,2)
Y <- rnorm(n,X^2,0.3+X/2)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X=X, Y=Y, n.knots=12, n.hidden=3, method="MCMC",
            control=control, normalize=TRUE)

## compute quantile ALE main effect of X at tau = 0.2,0.5,0.8
plotQALE(fit, var.index=1, tau=c(0.2,0.5,0.8))
```

---

plotQVI

*plot variable importance comparison by quantile*

---

### Description

Computes the quantile ALE-induced variable importance (VI) measure for each of the covariate specified in `var.index`, and produces a ranking plot of the covariates using bar plot for each quantile of interest.

### Usage

```
plotQVI(object, var.index = NULL, var.names = NULL, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>object</code>	An object of class SPQR.
<code>var.index</code>	A vector specifying the index of the covariates for which VI measures should be computed. Default is NULL indicating all covariates are considered.
<code>var.names</code>	The names of the covariates to appear in the bar plots. Default is NULL and the function will use generic names generated by <code>parse(text=paste0("X[", var.index, "]"))</code> .
<code>...</code>	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">QALE</a>
<code>tau</code>	The quantiles of interest.

- n.bins the maximum number of intervals into which the covariate range is divided when calculating the ALEs. The actual number of intervals depends on the number of unique values in  $X[, \text{var.index}]$ . When  $\text{length}(\text{var.index}) = 2$ , n.bins is applied to both covariates.
- ci.level The credible level for computing the pointwise credible intervals for ALE when  $\text{length}(\text{var.index}) = 1$ . The default is 0 indicating no credible intervals should be computed.
- pred.fun A function that will be used instead of `predict.SPQR()` for computing predicted quantiles given covariates. This can be useful when the user wants to compare the QALE calculated using SPQR to that using other quantile regression models, or maybe that using the true model in a simulation study.

### Value

A ggplot object.

### Examples

```
set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- matrix(runif(n*2, 0, 2), nrow = n, ncol = 2)
Y <- rnorm(n, X[,1]^2, 0.3+X[,1]/2)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X=X, Y=Y, n.knots=12, n.hidden=5, method="MCMC",
            control=control, normalize=TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## compute quantile VI of at tau = 0.2,0.5,0.8
plotQVI(fit, tau=c(0.2,0.5,0.8))
```

---

predict.SPQR

*predict method for class SPQR*

---

### Description

Computes the predicted values for different functions based on the fitted "SPQR" object.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SPQR'
predict(
  object,
  X,
  Y = NULL,
  nY = 101,
```

```

type = c("QF", "PDF", "CDF"),
tau = seq(0.1, 0.9, 0.1),
ci.level = 0,
getAll = FALSE,
...
)

```

### Arguments

object	An object of class SPQR.
X	The covariate vector/matrix for which the predictions are computed.
Y	The response vector for which the predictions are computed. Default is NULL indicating that a equi-distant grid vector on [0,1] of length nY is used.
nY	An integer number indicating length of grid when Y is not specified. Default: 101.
type	The function to be predicted; "PDF": probability density function, "CDF": cumulative distribution function, and "QF": the quantile function (default).
tau	The grid of quantiles for which the quantile function is computed. Default: seq(0.1, 0.9, 0.1).
ci.level	The credible level for computing the pointwise credible intervals. The default is 0 indicating no credible intervals should be computed.
getAll	If TRUE, extracts all posterior samples of the prediction. Default: FALSE.
...	Other arguments.

### Value

A named array containing all predicted values.

### Examples

```

set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,
           normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## compute the estimated PDF of Y conditioned on X = 0
pdf <- predict(fit, type = "PDF", X = 0, Y = seq(0, 1, 0.01))
plot(seq(0, 1, 0.01), pdf, xlab = "Y", ylab = "Density")

```

---

print.SPQR	<i>print method for class SPQR</i>
------------	------------------------------------

---

### Description

Summarizes and print the output produced by SPQR() in an organized way.

### Usage

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

### Arguments

x	An object of class SPQR
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">print.summary.SPQR</a> showModel If TRUE, prints the detailed NN architecture by layer.

### Details

This is equivalent to the function call `print.summary.SPQR(summary.SPQR(object), ...)`.

### Value

No return value, called for side effects.

### Examples

```
set.seed(919)  
n <- 200  
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)  
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)  
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)  
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,  
           normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)  
print(fit, showModel = TRUE)
```

---

```
print.summary.SPQR      print method for "summary.SPQR"
```

---

### Description

Print the output produced by `summary.SPQR()`.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.SPQR'
print(x, showModel = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>summary.SPQR</code>
<code>showModel</code>	If TRUE, prints the detailed NN architecture by layer.
<code>...</code>	Other arguments.

### Value

No return value, called for side effects.

### Examples

```
set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,
            normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## summarize output
summary(fit)
```

---

```
QALE      quantile accumulated local effects (ALE)
```

---

### Description

Computes the quantile ALEs of a SPQR class object. The function plots the ALE main effects across `tau` using line plots for a single covariate, and the ALE interaction effects across `tau` using contour plots for two covariates .



**Usage**

```
QALE(
  object,
  var.index,
  tau = seq(0.1, 0.9, 0.1),
  n.bins = 40,
  ci.level = 0,
  getAll = FALSE,
  pred.fun = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	An object of class SPQR.
<code>var.index</code>	a numeric scalar or length-two vector of indices of the covariates for which the ALEs will be calculated. When <code>length(var.index) = 1</code> , the function computes the main effect for <code>X[, var.index]</code> . When <code>length(var.index) = 2</code> , the function computes the interaction effect between <code>X[, var.index[1]]</code> and <code>X[, var.index[2]]</code> .
<code>tau</code>	The quantiles of interest.
<code>n.bins</code>	the maximum number of intervals into which the covariate range is divided when calculating the ALEs. The actual number of intervals depends on the number of unique values in <code>X[, var.index]</code> . When <code>length(var.index) = 2</code> , <code>n.bins</code> is applied to both covariates.
<code>ci.level</code>	The credible level for computing the pointwise credible intervals for ALE when <code>length(var.index) = 1</code> . The default is 0 indicating no credible intervals should be computed.
<code>getAll</code>	If TRUE and <code>length(var.index) = 1</code> , extracts all posterior samples of ALE.
<code>pred.fun</code>	A function that will be used instead of <code>predict.SPQR()</code> for computing predicted quantiles given covariates. This can be useful when the user wants to compare the QALE calculated using SPQR to that using other quantile regression models, or maybe that using the true model in a simulation study.

**Value**

<code>x</code>	If <code>length(var.index) = 1</code> , a <code>(n.bins+1)</code> -length vector specifying the ordered predictor values at which the ALE plot function is calculated. These are the break points for the <code>n.bins</code> intervals into which the predictor range is divided, plus the lower boundary of the first interval and the upper boundary of the last interval. If <code>length(var.index) = 2</code> , a list of two such vectors, the first containing the <code>X[, var.index[1]]</code> values and the second containing the <code>X[, var.index[2]]</code> values at which the ALE plot function is calculated.
<code>ALE</code>	If <code>length(var.index) = 1</code> , a <code>(n.bins+1)</code> by <code>length(tau)</code> matrix of predicted ALE values for every combination of <code>x</code> and <code>tau</code> . If <code>length(var.index) = 2</code> , a 3-dimensional array of predicted ALE values. Each slice corresponds to a quantile. Within each slice, the rows correspond to <code>X[, var.index[1]]</code> and the columns correspond to <code>X[, var.index[2]]</code> .

**Examples**

```

set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- runif(n,0,2)
Y <- rnorm(n,X^2,0.3+X/2)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X=X, Y=Y, n.knots=12, n.hidden=3, method="MCMC",
           control=control, normalize=TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## compute quantile ALE main effect of X at tau = 0.2,0.5,0.8
ale <- QALE(fit, var.index=1, tau=c(0.2,0.5,0.8))

```

---

save.SPQR

*save fitted SPQR model*


---

**Description**

Save SPQR object in a designated directory. If SPQR is fitted with method = "MCMC" then only a .SPQR file is saved; otherwise, a .pt file storing the fitted torch model is also saved.

**Usage**

```
save.SPQR(object, name = stop("`name` must be specified"), path = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class SPQR.
name	The name of the saved object excluding extension.
path	The path to save the object. Default is the current working directory.

**Value**

No return value, called for side effects.

**Examples**

```

set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)
# save.SPQR(fit, name = "mcmc_fit")

```

## Description

Main function of the package. Fits SPQR using the maximum likelihood estimation (MLE), maximum *a posterior* (MAP) or Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) method. Returns an object of S3 class SPQR.

## Usage

```
SPQR(
  X,
  Y,
  n.knots = 10,
  n.hidden = 10,
  activation = c("tanh", "relu", "sigmoid"),
  method = c("MLE", "MAP", "MCMC"),
  prior = c("ARD", "GP", "GSM"),
  hyperpar = list(),
  control = list(),
  normalize = FALSE,
  verbose = TRUE,
  seed = NULL,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

X	The covariate matrix (without intercept column)
Y	The response vector.
n.knots	The number of basis functions. Default: 10.
n.hidden	A vector specifying the number of hidden neurons in each hidden layer. Default: 10.
activation	The hidden layer activation. Either "tanh" (default) or "relu".
method	Method for estimating SPQR. One of "MLE", "MAP" (default) or "MCMC".
prior	The prior model for variance hyperparameters. One of "GP", "ARD" (default) or "GSM".
hyperpar	A list of named hyper-prior hyperparameters to use instead of the default values, including a_lambda, b_lambda, a_sigma and b_sigma. The default value is 0.001 for all four hyperparameters.
control	A list of named and method-dependent parameters that allows finer control of the behavior of the computational approaches. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parameters for MLE and MAP methods</li> </ol>

- `use.gpu` If TRUE GPU computing will be used if `torch::cuda_is_available()` returns TRUE. Default: FALSE.
- `lr` The learning rate used by the Adam optimizer, i.e., `torch::optim_adam()`.
- `dropout` A length two vector specifying the dropout probabilities in the input and hidden layers respectively. The default is `c(0, 0)` indicating no dropout.
- `batchnorm` If TRUE batch normalization will be used after each hidden activation.
- `epochs` The number of passes of the entire training dataset in gradient descent optimization. If `early_stopping.epochs` is used then this is the maximum number of passes. Default: 200.
- `batch.size` The size of mini batches for gradient calculation. Default: 128.
- `valid.pct` The fraction of data used as validation set. Default: 0.2.
- `early_stopping.epochs` The number of epochs before stopping if the validation loss does not decrease. Default: 10.
- `print.every.epochs` The number of epochs before next training progress is printed. Default: 10.
- `save.path` The path to save the fitted torch model. By default a folder named "SPQR\_model" is created in the current working directory to store the model.
- `save.name` The name of the file to save the fitted torch model. Default is "SPQR.model.pt".

## 2. Parameters for MCMC method

These parameters are similar to those in `rstan::stan()`. Detailed explanations can be found in the Stan reference manual.

- `algorithm` The sampling algorithm; "HMC": Hamiltonian Monte Carlo with dual-averaging, "NUTS": No-U-Turn sampler (default).
- `iter` The number of MCMC iterations (including warmup). Default: 2000.
- `warmup` The number of warm-up/burn-in iterations for step-size and mass matrix adaptation. Default: 500.
- `thin` The number of iterations before saving next post-warmup samples. Default: 1.
- `stepsize` The discretization interval/step-size  $\epsilon$  of leap-frog integrator. Default is NULL which indicates that it will be adaptively selected during warm-up iterations.
- `metric` The type of mass matrix; "unit": diagonal matrix of ones, "diag": diagonal matrix with positive diagonal entries estimated during warmup iterations (default), "dense": a dense, symmetric positive definite matrix with entries estimated during warm-up iterations.
- `delta` The target Metropolis acceptance rate. Default: 0.9.
- `max.treedepth` The maximum tree depth in NUTS. Default: 6.
- `int.time` The integration time in HMC. The number of leap-frog steps is calculated as  $L_\epsilon = \lfloor t/\epsilon \rfloor$ . Default: 0.3.

`normalize`

If TRUE, all covariates will be normalized to take values between [0,1].

verbose	If TRUE (default), training progress will be printed.
seed	Random number generation seed.
...	other parameters to pass to control.

**Value**

An object of class SPQR. A list containing mostly internal model fitting information to be used by helper functions.

**References**

Xu SG, Reich BJ (2021). *Bayesian Nonparametric Quantile Process Regression and Estimation of Marginal Quantile Effects*. *Biometrics*. doi: [10.1111/biom.13576](https://doi.org/10.1111/biom.13576)

**Examples**

```
set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,
           normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## summarize output
summary(fit)

## plot estimated PDF
plotEstimator(fit, type = "PDF", X = 0)
```

---

summary.SPQR

*summary method for class SPQR*


---

**Description**

summarizes the output produced by SPQR() and structures them in a more organized way to be examined by the user.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'SPQR'
summary(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class SPQR.
...	Other arguments.

**Value**

An object of class `summary.SPQR`. A list containing summary information of the fitted model.

<code>method</code>	The estimation method
<code>time</code>	The elapsed time
<code>prior</code>	If <code>method = "MAP"</code> or <code>method = "MCMC"</code> , the hyperprior model for the variance hyperparameters
<code>model</code>	If <code>method = "MLE"</code> or <code>method = "MAP"</code> , the fitted torch model. If <code>method = "MCMC"</code> , the posterior samples of neural network parameters
<code>loss</code>	If <code>method = "MLE"</code> or <code>method = "MAP"</code> , the train and validation loss
<code>optim.info</code>	If <code>method = "MLE"</code> or <code>method = "MAP"</code> , configuration information of the Adam routine
<code>elpd</code>	If <code>method = "MCMC"</code> , the expected log-predictive density
<code>diagnostics</code>	If <code>method = "MCMC"</code> , diagnostic information of the MCMC chain

**Examples**

```
set.seed(919)
n <- 200
X <- rbinom(n, 1, 0.5)
Y <- rnorm(n, X, 0.8)
control <- list(iter = 200, warmup = 150, thin = 1)
fit <- SPQR(X = X, Y = Y, method = "MCMC", control = control,
           normalize = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)

## summarize output
summary(fit)
```

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