

# Package ‘qshap’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Fast Calculation of Feature Contributions in Boosting Trees

**Version** 1.0.1

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**Description** Computes feature-specific R-squared (R<sup>2</sup>) contributions for boosting tree models using a Shapley-value-based decomposition of the total R-squared in polynomial time. Supports models fitted with 'XGBoost', 'LightGBM', and 'CatBoost', with optimized backend-specific implementations and cached tree summaries suitable for large-scale problems. Multiple visualization tools are included for interpreting and communicating feature contributions. The methodology is described in Jiang, Zhang, and Zhang (2025) <[doi:10.48550/arXiv.2407.03515](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2407.03515)>. Optional 'CatBoost' support uses the R package 'catboost', which is not distributed on CRAN; installation instructions and released binaries are provided by the CatBoost project at <<https://catboost.ai/docs/en/concepts/r-installation>>.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**URL** [https://github.com/catstats/Q-SHAP\\_R](https://github.com/catstats/Q-SHAP_R)

**BugReports** [https://github.com/catstats/Q-SHAP\\_R/issues](https://github.com/catstats/Q-SHAP_R/issues)

**Imports** Rcpp (>= 1.0.14), xgboost (>= 3.1.3.1), parallel, lightgbm, viridisLite, ggplot2, jsonlite, methods, progress

**Suggests** shiny

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**Author** Steven He [aut],  
Zhongli Jiang [aut, cre],  
Dabao Zhang [aut]

**Maintainer** Zhongli Jiang <[zhongli.jiang.stats@gmail.com](mailto:zhongli.jiang.stats@gmail.com)>

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as.data.frame.qshap\_result

*Coercion method to data.frame for qshap\_result*

---

### Description

Coercion method to data.frame for qshap\_result

### Usage

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

### Arguments

x	A qshap_result object
row.names	Not used
optional	Not used
...	Additional arguments (currently unused)

### Value

A data.frame with columns feature (character) and rsqa (numeric), sorted by rsqa in decreasing order.

---

gazer *Create a QSHAP Tree Explainer*

---

### Description

Creates an explainer object for computing feature-specific Shapley values from a trained tree ensemble model. Supports XGBoost, LightGBM, and CatBoost models.

### Usage

```
gazer(model, max_depth = NULL, base_score = NULL, ...)
```

### Arguments

model	A model object of class <code>xgboost</code> or <code>xgb.Booster</code> from <b>xgboost</b> , or class <code>lgb.Booster</code> from <b>lightgbm</b>
max_depth	Maximum depth of trees, extracted from <code>model</code> by default.
base_score	Base score for predictions, extracted from <code>model</code> by default.
...	Additional arguments, for future use

### Value

A class of `qshap_tree_explainer` object containing the model information and preprocessed tree structures for fast Shapley value computation

### Examples

```
library(xgboost)
set.seed(42)
n <- 100
p <- 100
X <- matrix(rnorm(n * p), nrow = n, ncol = p)
y <- X[, 1] - X[, 2] + rnorm(n, sd = 0.2)
model <- xgboost(X, y, nrounds = 15, max_depth = 2, verbose = 0)
explainer <- gazeer(model)
```

---

loss *Alias for qshap\_loss*

---

### Description

This is a convenience alias for `qshap_loss()` that provides a shorter function name for calculating feature-specific loss contributions.

**Usage**

```
loss(explainer, x, y, y_mean_ori = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

explainer	A qshap_tree_explainer object created by gazer()
x	Feature matrix or data frame
y	Response vector
y_mean_ori	Optional pre-computed mean of y (for efficiency)

**Value**

A matrix of loss contributions with dimensions (n\_samples, n\_features)

**See Also**

[qshap\\_loss](#)

**Examples**

```
library(xgboost)
set.seed(42)
n <- 100
p <- 100
X <- matrix(rnorm(n * p), nrow = n, ncol = p)
y <- X[, 1] - X[, 2] + rnorm(n, sd = 0.2)
model <- xgboost(X, y, nrounds = 15, max_depth = 2, verbose = 0)
explainer <- gazer(model)
loss_matrix <- loss(explainer, X, y)
dim(loss_matrix)
```

---

plot.qshap\_rsq

*Plot method for qshap\_rsq objects*

---

**Description**

This S3 method enables ‘plot(x, …)’ where ‘x’ is a ‘qshap\_rsq’ object. It dispatches to the visualization functions in ‘vis’.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'qshap_rsq'
plot(
  x,
  y = NULL,
  type = c("rsq", "elbow", "cumu", "gcorr", "hist", "density", "loss"),
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

x	A 'qshap_rsq' object.
y	Not used.
type	Plot type: one of "rsq", "elbow", "cumu", "gcorr", "hist", "density", or "loss".
...	Passed to the underlying visualization function.

**Value**

A ggplot2 object (invisibly).

---

`print.qshap_result`     *Print method for qshap\_result*

---

**Description**

Print method for qshap\_result

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'qshap_result'  
print(x, n = 10, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	A qshap_result object
n	Integer number of top features to display (default: 10)
...	Additional arguments (currently unused)

**Value**

The input x is returned invisibly. Called primarily for its side effect of printing a summary of the qshap\_result object to the console.

print.qshap\_tree\_explainer  
*Print method for qshap\_tree\_explainer*

---

**Description**

Print method for qshap\_tree\_explainer

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

x                    A qshap\_tree\_explainer object  
...                  Additional arguments (currently unused)

**Value**

The input x is returned invisibly. Called primarily for its side effect of printing a summary of the qshap\_tree\_explainer object to the console.

---

print.simple\_tree     *Print method for simple\_tree*

---

**Description**

Print method for simple\_tree

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

x                    A simple\_tree object  
...                  Additional arguments (currently unused)

**Value**

The input x is returned invisibly. Called primarily for its side effect of printing a summary of the simple\_tree object to the console.

---

print.tree\_summary      *Print method for tree\_summary*

---

**Description**

Print method for tree\_summary

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

x                      A tree\_summary object  
...                    Additional arguments (currently unused)

**Value**

The input x is returned invisibly. Called primarily for its side effect of printing a summary of the tree\_summary object to the console.

---

qshap                      *Alias for rsq*

---

**Description**

This is a convenience alias for rsq() that provides a shorter function name for calculating feature-specific R-squared values.

**Usage**

```
qshap(  
  explainer,  
  x,  
  y,  
  feature_names = NULL,  
  local = FALSE,  
  nsample = NULL,  
  sd_out = TRUE,  
  ci_out = TRUE,  
  level = 0.95,  
  nfrac = NULL,  
  random_state = 42,  
  ncore = 1L  
)
```

**Arguments**

explainer	A qshap_tree_explainer object created by gazer()
x	Feature matrix or data frame with n samples and p features
y	Response vector of length n
feature_names	Character vector of feature names. If NULL, uses column names from x.
local	Logical; if TRUE, returns both R-squared values and loss matrix
nsample	Optional integer; number of samples to use (random subsample if less than nrow(x))
sd_out	Logical; if TRUE, returns standard deviations of R-squared estimates
ci_out	Logical; if TRUE, returns Wald-style confidence intervals for each feature's R-squared (normal approximation using sd_rsqr)
level	Confidence level for the intervals (default 0.95)
nfrac	Optional numeric in (0,1); fraction of samples to use (alternative to nsample)
random_state	Integer seed for reproducible sampling
ncore	Number of cores for parallel processing. Use -1 for all available cores, or a positive integer. Default is 1 (no parallelization)

**Value**

A qshap\_result object; see [rsq](#) for details.

**See Also**

[rsq](#)

**Examples**

```
library(xgboost)
set.seed(42)
n <- 100
p <- 100
X <- matrix(rnorm(n * p), nrow = n, ncol = p)
y <- X[, 1] - X[, 2] + rnorm(n, sd = 0.2)
model <- xgboost(X, y, nrounds = 15, max_depth = 2, verbose = 0)
explainer <- gazer(model)
phi_rsqr <- qshap(explainer, X, y)
print(phi_rsqr)
```

---

qshap_result	<i>User-friendly constructor for qshap_result</i>
--------------	---

---

### Description

User-friendly constructor for qshap\_result

### Usage

```
qshap_result(
  rsq,
  feature_names = NULL,
  total_rsqr = NULL,
  n_samples = NULL,
  n_features = NULL,
  loss = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

rsq	Numeric vector of feature-specific R-squared values
feature_names	Character vector of feature names (optional)
total_rsqr	Numeric total R-squared (sum of feature-specific values)
n_samples	Integer number of samples used
n_features	Integer number of features
loss	Optional loss matrix (n_samples x n_features)

### Value

A validated qshap\_result object

---

rsq	<i>Calculate Feature-Specific R-Squared Values</i>
-----	--

---

### Description

Computes feature-specific R-squared values using Q-SHAP decomposition, returning a qshap\_result object with better formatting and additional metadata. The qshap\_result object includes feature names, total R<sup>2</sup>, sample counts, and provides enhanced print(), summary(), and as.data.frame() methods for easier analysis.

**Usage**

```
rsq(
  explainer,
  x,
  y,
  feature_names = NULL,
  local = FALSE,
  nsample = NULL,
  sd_out = TRUE,
  ci_out = TRUE,
  level = 0.95,
  nfrac = NULL,
  random_state = 42,
  ncore = 1L
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>explainer</code>	A <code>qshap_tree_explainer</code> object created by <code>gazer()</code>
<code>x</code>	Feature matrix or data frame with <code>n</code> samples and <code>p</code> features
<code>y</code>	Response vector of length <code>n</code>
<code>feature_names</code>	Character vector of feature names. If <code>NULL</code> , uses column names from <code>x</code> .
<code>local</code>	Logical; if <code>TRUE</code> , returns both R-squared values and loss matrix
<code>nsample</code>	Optional integer; number of samples to use (random subsample if less than <code>nrow(x)</code> )
<code>sd_out</code>	Logical; if <code>TRUE</code> , returns standard deviations of R-squared estimates
<code>ci_out</code>	Logical; if <code>TRUE</code> , returns Wald-style confidence intervals for each feature's R-squared (normal approximation using <code>sd_rsqr</code> )
<code>level</code>	Confidence level for the intervals (default 0.95)
<code>nfrac</code>	Optional numeric in (0,1); fraction of samples to use (alternative to <code>nsample</code> )
<code>random_state</code>	Integer seed for reproducible sampling
<code>ncore</code>	Number of cores for parallel processing. Use -1 for all available cores, or a positive integer. Default is 1 (no parallelization)

**Details**

This function provides a user-friendly interface for Q-SHAP  $R^2$  computation:

- Automatically extracts feature names from the input data
- Returns a structured object with metadata
- Provides enhanced printing with top features displayed by default
- Includes a comprehensive `summary()` method
- Can be easily converted to a data frame with `as.data.frame()`

**Value**

A qshap\_result object containing:

- rsq: Numeric vector of feature-specific  $R^2$  values
- feature\_names: Character vector of feature names
- total\_rsq: Total  $R^2$  (sum of feature-specific values)
- n\_samples: Number of samples
- n\_features: Number of features
- loss: Loss matrix (if local=TRUE)

**See Also**

[qshap\\_result](#)

**Examples**

```
library(xgboost)
set.seed(42)
n <- 100
p <- 100
X <- matrix(rnorm(n * p), nrow = n, ncol = p)
y <- X[, 1] - X[, 2] + rnorm(n, sd = 0.2)
model <- xgboost(X, y, nrounds = 15, max_depth = 2, verbose = 0)
explainer <- gazer(model)
result <- rsq(explainer, X, y)
print(result)
```

---

summary.qshap\_result *Summary method for qshap\_result*

---

**Description**

Summary method for qshap\_result

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

object	A qshap_result object
...	Additional arguments (currently unused)

**Value**

The input object is returned invisibly. Called primarily for its side effect of printing a detailed summary of the qshap\_result object to the console.

---

summary.qshap\_rsq      *Summary method for qshap\_rsq objects*

---

**Description**

Provides a summary of the qshap\_rsq object, showing the top features by R-squared contribution

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'qshap_rsq'  
summary(object, n = 10, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	A qshap_rsq object
n	Integer number of top features to display (default: 10)
...	Additional arguments (currently unused)

**Value**

The input object is returned invisibly. Called primarily for its side effect of printing a summary of the qshap\_rsq object to the console.

---

summary.qshap\_tree\_explainer  
*Summary method for qshap\_tree\_explainer*

---

**Description**

Provides detailed summary information about the explainer

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

object	A qshap_tree_explainer object
...	Additional arguments (currently unused)

**Value**

The input object is returned invisibly. Called primarily for its side effect of printing a detailed summary of the qshap\_tree\_explainer object to the console.

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