

# Package ‘mlr3hyperband’

July 10, 2025

**Title** Hyperband for 'mlr3'

**Version** 1.0.0

**Description** Successive Halving (Jamieson and Talwalkar (2016) [doi:10.48550/arXiv.1502.07943](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1502.07943)) and Hyperband (Li et al. 2018 [doi:10.48550/arXiv.1603.06560](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1603.06560)) optimization algorithm for the mlr3 ecosystem. The implementation in mlr3hyperband features improved scheduling and parallelizes the evaluation of configurations. The package includes tuners for hyperparameter optimization in mlr3tuning and optimizers for black-box optimization in bbotk.

**License** LGPL-3

**URL** <https://mlr3hyperband.mlr-org.com>,  
<https://github.com/mlr-org/mlr3hyperband>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/mlr-org/mlr3hyperband/issues>

**Depends** mlr3tuning (>= 1.4.0), R (>= 3.1.0)

**Imports** bbotk (>= 1.6.0), checkmate (>= 1.9.4), data.table, lgr, mlr3 (>= 0.13.1), mlr3misc (>= 0.10.0), paradox (>= 0.9.0), R6, uuid

**Suggests** emoa, mirai, mlr3learners (>= 0.5.2), mlr3pipelines, redux, rpart, rush (>= 0.2.0), testthat (>= 3.0.0), xgboost

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**Config/testthat/parallel** no

**Encoding** UTF-8

**NeedsCompilation** no

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**Collate** 'OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving.R' 'aaa.R'  
'OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving.R' 'OptimizerBatchHyperband.R'  
'TunerAsyncSuccessiveHalving.R' 'TunerBatchHyperband.R'  
'TunerBatchSuccessiveHalving.R' 'bibentries.R' 'helper.R'  
'zzz.R'

**Author** Marc Becker [aut, cre] (ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8115-0400>),  
Sebastian Gruber [aut] (ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8544-3470>),

Jakob Richter [aut] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4481-5554>>),  
Julia Moosbauer [aut] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0000-9297>>),  
Bernd Bischl [aut] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6002-6980>>)

**Maintainer** Marc Becker <marcbecker@posteo.de>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2025-07-10 09:00:02 UTC

Contents

mlr3hyperband-package . . . . .	2
hyperband_budget . . . . .	3
hyperband_n_configs . . . . .	4
hyperband_schedule . . . . .	4
mlr_optimizers_async_successive_halving . . . . .	5
mlr_optimizers_hyperband . . . . .	7
mlr_optimizers_successive_halving . . . . .	10
mlr_tuners_async_successive_halving . . . . .	13
mlr_tuners_hyperband . . . . .	15
mlr_tuners_successive_halving . . . . .	19
<b>Index</b>	<b>23</b>

---

mlr3hyperband-package    *mlr3hyperband: Hyperband for 'mlr3'*

---

Description

Successive Halving (Jamieson and Talwalkar (2016) [doi:10.48550/arXiv.1502.07943](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1502.07943)) and Hyperband (Li et al. 2018 [doi:10.48550/arXiv.1603.06560](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1603.06560)) optimization algorithm for the mlr3 ecosystem. The implementation in mlr3hyperband features improved scheduling and parallelizes the evaluation of configurations. The package includes tuners for hyperparameter optimization in mlr3tuning and optimizers for black-box optimization in bbotk.

Author(s)

**Maintainer:** Marc Becker <marcbecker@posteo.de> ([ORCID](#))

Authors:

- Sebastian Gruber <gruber\_sebastian@t-online.de> ([ORCID](#))
- Jakob Richter <jakob1richter@gmail.com> ([ORCID](#))
- Julia Moosbauer <ju.moosbauer@gmail.com> ([ORCID](#))
- Bernd Bischl <bernd\_bischl@gmx.net> ([ORCID](#))

**See Also**

Useful links:

- <https://mlr3hyperband.mlr-org.com>
- <https://github.com/mlr-org/mlr3hyperband>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/mlr-org/mlr3hyperband/issues>

---

hyperband\_budget

*Hyperband Budget*

---

**Description**

Calculates the total budget used by hyperband.

**Usage**

```
hyperband_budget(r_min, r_max, eta, integer_budget = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

r_min	(numeric(1)) Lower bound of budget parameter.
r_max	(numeric(1)) Upper bound of budget parameter.
eta	(numeric(1)) Fraction parameter of the successive halving algorithm: With every stage the configuration budget is increased by a factor of eta and only the best 1/eta points are used for the next stage. Non-integer values are supported, but eta is not allowed to be less or equal 1.
integer_budget	(logical(1)) Determines if budget is an integer.

**Value**

integer(1)

---

hyperband_n_configs	<i>Hyperband Configs</i>
---------------------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

Calculates how many different configurations are sampled.

**Usage**

```
hyperband_n_configs(r_min, r_max, eta)
```

**Arguments**

r_min	(numeric(1)) Lower bound of budget parameter.
r_max	(numeric(1)) Upper bound of budget parameter.
eta	(numeric(1)) Fraction parameter of the successive halving algorithm: With every stage the configuration budget is increased by a factor of eta and only the best 1/eta points are used for the next stage. Non-integer values are supported, but eta is not allowed to be less or equal 1.

**Value**

```
integer(1)
```

---

hyperband_schedule	<i>Hyperband Schedule</i>
--------------------	---------------------------

---

**Description**

Returns hyperband schedule.

**Usage**

```
hyperband_schedule(r_min, r_max, eta, integer_budget = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

r_min	(numeric(1)) Lower bound of budget parameter.
r_max	(numeric(1)) Upper bound of budget parameter.
eta	(numeric(1)) Fraction parameter of the successive halving algorithm: With every stage the configuration budget is increased by a factor of eta and only the best 1/eta points are used for the next stage. Non-integer values are supported, but eta is not allowed to be less or equal 1.
integer_budget	(logical(1)) Determines if budget is an integer.

**Value**

`data.table::data.table()`

---

mlr\_optimizers\_async\_successive\_halving  
*Asynchronous Hyperparameter Optimization with Successive Halving*

---

**Description**

OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving class that implements the Asynchronous Successive Halving Algorithm (ASHA). This class implements the asynchronous version of [OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving](#).

**Dictionary**

This [bbotk::Optimizer](#) can be instantiated via the dictionary [bbotk::mlr\\_optimizers](#) or with the associated sugar function [bbotk::opt\(\)](#):

```
mlr_optimizers$get("async_successive_halving")
opt("async_successive_halving")
```

**Parameters**

- eta numeric(1)  
With every stage, the budget is increased by a factor of eta and only the best 1 / eta configurations are promoted to the next stage. Non-integer values are supported, but eta is not allowed to be less or equal to 1.
- sampler [paradox::Sampler](#)  
Object defining how the samples of the parameter space should be drawn. The default is uniform sampling.

## Archive

The `bbotk::Archive` holds the following additional columns that are specific to SHA:

- `stage` (`integer(1)`)  
Stage index. Starts counting at 0.
- `asha_id` (`character(1)`)  
Unique identifier for each configuration across stages.

## Custom Sampler

Hyperband supports custom `paradox::Sampler` object for initial configurations in each bracket. A custom sampler may look like this (the full example is given in the *examples* section):

```
# - beta distribution with alpha = 2 and beta = 5
# - categorical distribution with custom probabilities
sampler = SamplerJointIndep$new(list(
  Sampler1DRfun$new(params[[2]], function(n) rbeta(n, 2, 5)),
  Sampler1DCateg$new(params[[3]], prob = c(0.2, 0.3, 0.5))
))
```

## Super classes

`bbotk::Optimizer` -> `bbotk::OptimizerAsync` -> `OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving`

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$new()`
- `OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$optimize()`
- `OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Creates a new instance of this R6 class.

*Usage:*

```
OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$new()
```

**Method** `optimize()`: Performs the optimization on a `bbotk::OptimInstanceAsyncSingleCrit` or `bbotk::OptimInstanceAsyncMultiCrit` until termination. The single evaluations will be written into the `bbotk::ArchiveAsync`. The result will be written into the instance object.

*Usage:*

```
OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$optimize(inst)
```

*Arguments:*

`inst` (`bbotk::OptimInstanceAsyncSingleCrit` | `bbotk::OptimInstanceAsyncMultiCrit`).

*Returns:* `data.table::data.table()`

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Source

Li L, Jamieson K, Rostamizadeh A, Gonina E, Ben-tzur J, Hardt M, Recht B, Talwalkar A (2020). “A System for Massively Parallel Hyperparameter Tuning.” In Dhillon I, Papailiopoulos D, Sze V (eds.), *Proceedings of Machine Learning and Systems*, volume 2, 230–246. [https://proceedings.mlsys.org/paper\\_files/paper/2020/hash/a06f20b349c6cf09a6b171c71b88bbfc-Abstract.html](https://proceedings.mlsys.org/paper_files/paper/2020/hash/a06f20b349c6cf09a6b171c71b88bbfc-Abstract.html).

---

mlr\_optimizers\_hyperband

*Optimizer Using the Hyperband Algorithm*

---

## Description

Optimizer using the Hyperband (HB) algorithm. HB runs the [Successive Halving Algorithm](#) (SHA) with different numbers of staging configurations. The algorithm is initialized with the same parameters as Successive Halving but without  $n$ . Each run of Successive Halving is called a bracket and starts with a different budget  $r_0$ . A smaller starting budget means that more configurations can be tried out. The most explorative bracket allocated the minimum budget  $r_{\min}$ . The next bracket increases the starting budget by a factor of  $\eta$ . In each bracket, the starting budget increases further until the last bracket  $s = 0$  essentially performs a random search with the full budget  $r_{\max}$ . The number of brackets  $s_{\max} + 1$  is calculated with  $s_{\max} = \log(r_{\min} / r_{\max})(\eta)$ . Under the condition that  $r_0$  increases by  $\eta$  with each bracket,  $r_{\min}$  sometimes has to be adjusted slightly in order not to use more than  $r_{\max}$  resources in the last bracket. The number of configurations in the base stages is calculated so that each bracket uses approximately the same amount of budget. The following table shows a full run of HB with  $\eta = 2$ ,  $r_{\min} = 1$  and  $r_{\max} = 8$ .

s	3		2		1		0	
i	n_i	r_i	n_i	r_i	n_i	r_i	n_i	r_i
0	8	1	6	2	4	4	8	4
1	4	2	3	4	2	8		
2	2	4	1	8				
3	1	8						

$s$  is the bracket number,  $i$  is the stage number,  $n_i$  is the number of configurations and  $r_i$  is the budget allocated to a single configuration.

The budget hyperparameter must be tagged with "budget" in the search space. The minimum budget ( $r_{\min}$ ) which is allocated in the base stage of the most explorative bracket, is set by the lower bound of the budget parameter. The upper bound defines the maximum budget ( $r_{\max}$ ) which is allocated to the candidates in the last stages.

## Resources

The [gallery](#) features a collection of case studies and demos about optimization.

- [Tune](#) the hyperparameters of XGBoost with Hyperband.
- Use data [subsampling](#) and Hyperband to optimize a support vector machine.

## Dictionary

This `bbotk::Optimizer` can be instantiated via the dictionary `bbotk::mlr_optimizers` or with the associated sugar function `bbotk::opt()`:

```
mlr_optimizers$get("hyperband")
opt("hyperband")
```

## Parameters

`eta` `numeric(1)`  
 With every stage, the budget is increased by a factor of `eta` and only the best  $1 / \text{eta}$  points are promoted to the next stage. Non-integer values are supported, but `eta` is not allowed to be less or equal to 1.

`sampler` `paradox::Sampler`  
 Object defining how the samples of the parameter space should be drawn in the base stage of each bracket. The default is uniform sampling.

`repetitions` `integer(1)`  
 If 1 (default), optimization is stopped once all brackets are evaluated. Otherwise, optimization is stopped after `repetitions` runs of HB. The `bbotk::Terminator` might stop the optimization before all repetitions are executed.

## Archive

The `bbotk::Archive` holds the following additional columns that are specific to HB:

- `bracket` (`integer(1)`)  
 The bracket index. Counts down to 0.
- `stage` (`integer(1)`)  
 The stages of each bracket. Starts counting at 0.
- `repetition` (`integer(1)`)  
 Repetition index. Start counting at 1.

## Custom Sampler

Hyperband supports custom `paradox::Sampler` object for initial configurations in each bracket. A custom sampler may look like this (the full example is given in the *examples* section):

```
# - beta distribution with alpha = 2 and beta = 5
# - categorical distribution with custom probabilities
sampler = SamplerJointIndep$new(list(
  Sampler1DRfun$new(params[[2]], function(n) rbeta(n, 2, 5)),
  Sampler1DCateg$new(params[[3]], prob = c(0.2, 0.3, 0.5))
))
```

## Progress Bars

`$optimize()` supports progress bars via the package **progressr** combined with a `bbotk::Terminator`. Simply wrap the function in `progressr::with_progress()` to enable them. We recommend to use package **progress** as backend; enable with `progressr::handlers("progress")`.



## Logging

Hyperband uses a logger (as implemented in **lgr**) from package **bbotk**. Use `lgr::get_logger("bbotk")` to access and control the logger.

## Super classes

```
bbotk::Optimizer -> bbotk::OptimizerBatch -> OptimizerBatchHyperband
```

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `OptimizerBatchHyperband$new()`
- `OptimizerBatchHyperband$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Creates a new instance of this R6 class.

*Usage:*

```
OptimizerBatchHyperband$new()
```

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
OptimizerBatchHyperband$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Source

Li L, Jamieson K, DeSalvo G, Rostamizadeh A, Talwalkar A (2018). “Hyperband: A Novel Bandit-Based Approach to Hyperparameter Optimization.” *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, **18**(185), 1-52. <https://jmlr.org/papers/v18/16-558.html>.

## Examples

```
library(bbotk)
library(data.table)

# set search space
search_space = domain = ps(
  x1 = p_dbl(-5, 10),
  x2 = p_dbl(0, 15),
  fidelity = p_dbl(1e-2, 1, tags = "budget")
)

# Branin function with fidelity, see `bbotk::branin()`
fun = function(xs) branin_wu(xs[["x1"]], xs[["x2"]], xs[["fidelity"]])

# create objective
objective = ObjectiveRfun$new(
  fun = fun,
  domain = domain,
```

```

    codomain = ps(y = p_dbl(tags = "minimize"))
  )

  # initialize instance and optimizer
  instance = OptimInstanceSingleCrit$new(
    objective = objective,
    search_space = search_space,
    terminator = trm("evals", n_evals = 50)
  )

  optimizer = opt("hyperband")

  # optimize branin function
  optimizer$optimize(instance)

  # best scoring evaluation
  instance$result

  # all evaluations
  as.data.table(instance$archive)

```

---

mlr\_optimizers\_successive\_halving

*Hyperparameter Optimization with Successive Halving*


---

## Description

Optimizer using the Successive Halving Algorithm (SHA). SHA is initialized with the number of starting configurations  $n$ , the proportion of configurations discarded in each stage  $\eta$ , and the minimum  $r_{\min}$  and maximum  $r_{\max}$  budget of a single evaluation. The algorithm starts by sampling  $n$  random configurations and allocating the minimum budget  $r_{\min}$  to them. The configurations are evaluated and  $1 / \eta$  of the worst-performing configurations are discarded. The remaining configurations are promoted to the next stage and evaluated on a larger budget. The following table is the stage layout for  $\eta = 2$ ,  $r_{\min} = 1$  and  $r_{\max} = 8$ .

i	$n_i$	$r_i$
0	8	1
1	4	2
2	2	4
3	1	8

$i$  is the stage number,  $n_i$  is the number of configurations and  $r_i$  is the budget allocated to a single configuration.

The number of stages is calculated so that each stage consumes approximately the same budget. This sometimes results in the minimum budget having to be slightly adjusted by the algorithm.

## Resources

The [gallery](#) features a collection of case studies and demos about optimization.

- [Tune](#) the hyperparameters of XGBoost with Hyperband (Hyperband can be easily swapped with SHA).
- Use data [subsampling](#) and Hyperband to optimize a support vector machine.

## Dictionary

This `bbotk::Optimizer` can be instantiated via the `dictionary bbotk::mlr_optimizers` or with the associated sugar function `bbotk::opt()`:

```
mlr_optimizers$get("successive_halving")
opt("successive_halving")
```

## Parameters

- `n` `integer(1)`  
Number of configurations in the base stage.
- `eta` `numeric(1)`  
With every stage, the budget is increased by a factor of eta and only the best 1 / eta configurations are promoted to the next stage. Non-integer values are supported, but eta is not allowed to be less or equal to 1.
- `sampler` `paradox::Sampler`  
Object defining how the samples of the parameter space should be drawn. The default is uniform sampling.
- `repetitions` `integer(1)`  
If 1 (default), optimization is stopped once all stages are evaluated. Otherwise, optimization is stopped after repetitions runs of SHA. The `bbotk::Terminator` might stop the optimization before all repetitions are executed.
- `adjust_minimum_budget` `logical(1)`  
If TRUE, the minimum budget is increased so that the last stage uses the maximum budget defined in the search space.

## Archive

The `bbotk::Archive` holds the following additional columns that are specific to SHA:

- `stage` (`integer(1)`)  
Stage index. Starts counting at 0.
- `repetition` (`integer(1)`)  
Repetition index. Start counting at 1.

## Custom Sampler

Hyperband supports custom `paradox::Sampler` object for initial configurations in each bracket. A custom sampler may look like this (the full example is given in the *examples* section):

```
# - beta distribution with alpha = 2 and beta = 5
# - categorical distribution with custom probabilities
sampler = SamplerJointIndep$new(list(
  Sampler1DRfun$new(params[[2]], function(n) rbeta(n, 2, 5)),
  Sampler1DCateg$new(params[[3]], prob = c(0.2, 0.3, 0.5))
))
```

## Progress Bars

`$optimize()` supports progress bars via the package **progressr** combined with a `bbotk::Terminator`. Simply wrap the function in `progressr::with_progress()` to enable them. We recommend to use package **progress** as backend; enable with `progressr::handlers("progress")`.

## Logging

Hyperband uses a logger (as implemented in **lgr**) from package **bbotk**. Use `lgr::get_logger("bbotk")` to access and control the logger.

## Super classes

`bbotk::Optimizer` -> `bbotk::OptimizerBatch` -> `OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving`

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving$new()`
- `OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Creates a new instance of this **R6** class.

*Usage:*

```
OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving$new()
```

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Source

Jamieson K, Talwalkar A (2016). “Non-stochastic Best Arm Identification and Hyperparameter Optimization.” In Gretton A, Robert CC (eds.), *Proceedings of the 19th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics*, volume 51 series Proceedings of Machine Learning Research, 240-248. <http://proceedings.mlr.press/v51/jamieson16.html>.

**Examples**

```

library(bbotk)
library(data.table)

# set search space
search_space = domain = ps(
  x1 = p_dbl(-5, 10),
  x2 = p_dbl(0, 15),
  fidelity = p_dbl(1e-2, 1, tags = "budget")
)

# Branin function with fidelity, see `bbotk::branin()`
fun = function(xs) branin_wu(xs[["x1"]], xs[["x2"]], xs[["fidelity"]])

# create objective
objective = ObjectiveRfun$new(
  fun = fun,
  domain = domain,
  codomain = ps(y = p_dbl(tags = "minimize"))
)

# initialize instance and optimizer
instance = OptimInstanceSingleCrit$new(
  objective = objective,
  search_space = search_space,
  terminator = trm("evals", n_evals = 50)
)

optimizer = opt("successive_halving")

# optimize branin function
optimizer$optimize(instance)

# best scoring evaluation
instance$result

# all evaluations
as.data.table(instance$archive)

```

---

mlr\_tuners\_async\_successive\_halving

*Asynchronous Hyperparameter Tuning with Successive Halving*


---

**Description**

OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving class that implements the Asynchronous Successive Halving Algorithm (ASHA). This class implements the asynchronous version of [OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving](#).

## Dictionary

This `mlr3tuning::Tuner` can be instantiated via the dictionary `mlr3tuning::mlr_tuners` or with the associated sugar function `mlr3tuning::tnr()`:

```
TunerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$new()
mlr_tuners$get("async_successive_halving")
tnr("async_successive_halving")
```

## Subsample Budget

If the learner lacks a natural budget parameter, `mlr3pipelines::PipeOpSubsample` can be applied to use the subsampling rate as budget parameter. The resulting `mlr3pipelines::GraphLearner` is fitted on small proportions of the `mlr3::Task` in the first stage, and on the complete task in last stage.

## Custom Sampler

Hyperband supports custom `paradox::Sampler` object for initial configurations in each bracket. A custom sampler may look like this (the full example is given in the *examples* section):

```
# - beta distribution with alpha = 2 and beta = 5
# - categorical distribution with custom probabilities
sampler = SamplerJointIndep$new(list(
  Sampler1DRfun$new(params[[2]], function(n) rbeta(n, 2, 5)),
  Sampler1DCateg$new(params[[3]], prob = c(0.2, 0.3, 0.5))
))
```

## Parameters

`eta numeric(1)`

With every stage, the budget is increased by a factor of `eta` and only the best `1 / eta` configurations are promoted to the next stage. Non-integer values are supported, but `eta` is not allowed to be less or equal to 1.

`sampler paradox::Sampler`

Object defining how the samples of the parameter space should be drawn. The default is uniform sampling.

## Archive

The `bbotk::Archive` holds the following additional columns that are specific to SHA:

- `stage integer(1)`  
Stage index. Starts counting at 0.
- `asha_id character(1)`  
Unique identifier for each configuration across stages.

## Super classes

```
mlr3tuning::Tuner -> mlr3tuning::TunerAsync -> mlr3tuning::TunerAsyncFromOptimizerAsync
-> TunerAsyncSuccessiveHalving
```

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `TunerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$new()`
- `TunerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Creates a new instance of this R6 class.

*Usage:*

```
TunerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$new()
```

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
TunerAsyncSuccessiveHalving$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Source

Li L, Jamieson K, Rostamizadeh A, Gonina E, Ben-tzur J, Hardt M, Recht B, Talwalkar A (2020). “A System for Massively Parallel Hyperparameter Tuning.” In Dhillon I, Papailiopoulos D, Sze V (eds.), *Proceedings of Machine Learning and Systems*, volume 2, 230–246. [https://proceedings.mlsys.org/paper\\_files/paper/2020/hash/a06f20b349c6cf09a6b171c71b88bbfc-Abstract.html](https://proceedings.mlsys.org/paper_files/paper/2020/hash/a06f20b349c6cf09a6b171c71b88bbfc-Abstract.html).

---

mlr\_tuners\_hyperband    *Tuner Using the Hyperband Algorithm*

---

## Description

Optimizer using the Hyperband (HB) algorithm. HB runs the [Successive Halving Algorithm](#) (SHA) with different numbers of staging configurations. The algorithm is initialized with the same parameters as Successive Halving but without `n`. Each run of Successive Halving is called a bracket and starts with a different budget `r_0`. A smaller starting budget means that more configurations can be tried out. The most explorative bracket allocated the minimum budget `r_min`. The next bracket increases the starting budget by a factor of `eta`. In each bracket, the starting budget increases further until the last bracket `s = 0` essentially performs a random search with the full budget `r_max`. The number of brackets `s_max + 1` is calculated with `s_max = log(r_min / r_max)(eta)`. Under the condition that `r_0` increases by `eta` with each bracket, `r_min` sometimes has to be adjusted slightly in order not to use more than `r_max` resources in the last bracket. The number of configurations in the base stages is calculated so that each bracket uses approximately the same amount of budget. The following table shows a full run of HB with `eta = 2`, `r_min = 1` and `r_max = 8`.

s	3		2		1		0	
i	n_i	r_i	n_i	r_i	n_i	r_i	n_i	r_i
0	8	1	6	2	4	4	8	4

1	4	2	3	4	2	8
2	2	4	1	8		
3	1	8				

s is the bracket number, i is the stage number, n\_i is the number of configurations and r\_i is the budget allocated to a single configuration.

The budget hyperparameter must be tagged with "budget" in the search space. The minimum budget (r\_min) which is allocated in the base stage of the most explorative bracket, is set by the lower bound of the budget parameter. The upper bound defines the maximum budget (r\_max) which is allocated to the candidates in the last stages.

### Dictionary

This `mlr3tuning::Tuner` can be instantiated via the dictionary `mlr3tuning::mlr_tuners` or with the associated sugar function `mlr3tuning::tnr()`:

```
TunerBatchHyperband$new()
mlr_tuners$get("hyperband")
tnr("hyperband")
```

### Subsample Budget

If the learner lacks a natural budget parameter, `mlr3pipelines::PipeOpSubsample` can be applied to use the subsampling rate as budget parameter. The resulting `mlr3pipelines::GraphLearner` is fitted on small proportions of the `mlr3::Task` in the first stage, and on the complete task in last stage.

### Custom Sampler

Hyperband supports custom `paradox::Sampler` object for initial configurations in each bracket. A custom sampler may look like this (the full example is given in the *examples* section):

```
# - beta distribution with alpha = 2 and beta = 5
# - categorical distribution with custom probabilities
sampler = SamplerJointIndep$new(list(
  Sampler1DRfun$new(params[[2]], function(n) rbeta(n, 2, 5)),
  Sampler1DCateg$new(params[[3]], prob = c(0.2, 0.3, 0.5))
))
```

### Progress Bars

`$optimize()` supports progress bars via the package **progressr** combined with a `bbotk::Terminator`. Simply wrap the function in `progressr::with_progress()` to enable them. We recommend to use package **progress** as backend; enable with `progressr::handlers("progress")`.

### Parallelization

This hyperband implementation evaluates hyperparameter configurations of equal budget across brackets in one batch. For example, all configurations in stage 1 of bracket 3 and stage 0 of bracket 2 in one batch. To select a parallel backend, use the `plan()` function of the **future** package.



## Logging

Hyperband uses a logger (as implemented in **lgr**) from package **bbotk**. Use `lgr::get_logger("bbotk")` to access and control the logger.

## Resources

The **gallery** features a collection of case studies and demos about optimization.

- **Tune** the hyperparameters of XGBoost with Hyperband.
- Use data **subsampling** and Hyperband to optimize a support vector machine.

## Parameters

`eta numeric(1)`

With every stage, the budget is increased by a factor of eta and only the best 1 / eta points are promoted to the next stage. Non-integer values are supported, but eta is not allowed to be less or equal to 1.

`sampler paradox::Sampler`

Object defining how the samples of the parameter space should be drawn in the base stage of each bracket. The default is uniform sampling.

`repetitions integer(1)`

If 1 (default), optimization is stopped once all brackets are evaluated. Otherwise, optimization is stopped after repetitions runs of HB. The **bbotk::Terminator** might stop the optimization before all repetitions are executed.

## Archive

The **bbotk::Archive** holds the following additional columns that are specific to HB:

- `bracket (integer(1))`  
The bracket index. Counts down to 0.
- `stage (integer(1))`  
The stages of each bracket. Starts counting at 0.
- `repetition (integer(1))`  
Repetition index. Start counting at 1.

## Super classes

```
mlr3tuning::Tuner -> mlr3tuning::TunerBatch -> mlr3tuning::TunerBatchFromOptimizerBatch
-> TunerBatchHyperband
```

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `TunerBatchHyperband$new()`
- `TunerBatchHyperband$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Creates a new instance of this **R6** class.

*Usage:*

```
TunerBatchHyperband$new()
```

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
TunerBatchHyperband$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Source

Li L, Jamieson K, DeSalvo G, Rostamizadeh A, Talwalkar A (2018). “Hyperband: A Novel Bandit-Based Approach to Hyperparameter Optimization.” *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, **18**(185), 1-52. <https://jmlr.org/papers/v18/16-558.html>.

## Examples

```
if(requireNamespace("xgboost")) {
  library(mlr3learners)

  # define hyperparameter and budget parameter
  search_space = ps(
    nrounds = p_int(lower = 1, upper = 16, tags = "budget"),
    eta = p_dbl(lower = 0, upper = 1),
    booster = p_fct(levels = c("gbtree", "gblinear", "dart"))
  )

  # hyperparameter tuning on the pima indians diabetes data set
  instance = tune(
    tnr("hyperband"),
    task = tsk("pima"),
    learner = lrn("classif.xgboost", eval_metric = "logloss"),
    resampling = rsmp("cv", folds = 3),
    measures = msr("classif.ce"),
    search_space = search_space,
    term_evals = 100
  )

  # best performing hyperparameter configuration
  instance$result
}
```

---

mlr\_tuners\_successive\_halving

*Hyperparameter Tuning with Successive Halving*


---

## Description

Optimizer using the Successive Halving Algorithm (SHA). SHA is initialized with the number of starting configurations  $n$ , the proportion of configurations discarded in each stage  $\eta$ , and the minimum  $r_{\min}$  and maximum  $r_{\max}$  budget of a single evaluation. The algorithm starts by sampling  $n$  random configurations and allocating the minimum budget  $r_{\min}$  to them. The configurations are evaluated and  $1 / \eta$  of the worst-performing configurations are discarded. The remaining configurations are promoted to the next stage and evaluated on a larger budget. The following table is the stage layout for  $\eta = 2$ ,  $r_{\min} = 1$  and  $r_{\max} = 8$ .

i	$n_i$	$r_i$
0	8	1
1	4	2
2	2	4
3	1	8

$i$  is the stage number,  $n_i$  is the number of configurations and  $r_i$  is the budget allocated to a single configuration.

The number of stages is calculated so that each stage consumes approximately the same budget. This sometimes results in the minimum budget having to be slightly adjusted by the algorithm.

## Dictionary

This `mlr3tuning::Tuner` can be instantiated via the dictionary `mlr3tuning::mlr_tuners` or with the associated sugar function `mlr3tuning::tnr()`:

```
TunerBatchSuccessiveHalving$new()
mlr_tuners$get("successive_halving")
tnr("successive_halving")
```

## Subsample Budget

If the learner lacks a natural budget parameter, `mlr3pipelines::PipeOpSubsample` can be applied to use the subsampling rate as budget parameter. The resulting `mlr3pipelines::GraphLearner` is fitted on small proportions of the `mlr3::Task` in the first stage, and on the complete task in last stage.

## Custom Sampler

Hyperband supports custom `paradox::Sampler` object for initial configurations in each bracket. A custom sampler may look like this (the full example is given in the *examples* section):

```
# - beta distribution with alpha = 2 and beta = 5
# - categorical distribution with custom probabilities
sampler = SamplerJointIndep$new(list(
  Sampler1DRfun$new(params[[2]], function(n) rbeta(n, 2, 5)),
  Sampler1DCateg$new(params[[3]], prob = c(0.2, 0.3, 0.5))
))
```

### Progress Bars

\$optimize() supports progress bars via the package **progressr** combined with a **bbotk::Terminator**. Simply wrap the function in `progressr::with_progress()` to enable them. We recommend to use package **progress** as backend; enable with `progressr::handlers("progress")`.

### Parallelization

The hyperparameter configurations of one stage are evaluated in parallel with the **future** package. To select a parallel backend, use the `plan()` function of the **future** package.

### Logging

Hyperband uses a logger (as implemented in **lgr**) from package **bbotk**. Use `lgr::get_logger("bbotk")` to access and control the logger.

### Resources

The **gallery** features a collection of case studies and demos about optimization.

- **Tune** the hyperparameters of XGBoost with Hyperband (Hyperband can be easily swapped with SHA).
- Use data **subsampling** and Hyperband to optimize a support vector machine.

### Parameters

```
n integer(1)
  Number of configurations in the base stage.

eta numeric(1)
  With every stage, the budget is increased by a factor of eta and only the best 1 / eta configurations are promoted to the next stage. Non-integer values are supported, but eta is not allowed to be less or equal to 1.

sampler paradox::Sampler
  Object defining how the samples of the parameter space should be drawn. The default is uniform sampling.

repetitions integer(1)
  If 1 (default), optimization is stopped once all stages are evaluated. Otherwise, optimization is stopped after repetitions runs of SHA. The bbotk::Terminator might stop the optimization before all repetitions are executed.

adjust_minimum_budget logical(1)
  If TRUE, the minimum budget is increased so that the last stage uses the maximum budget defined in the search space.
```

## Archive

The `bbotk::Archive` holds the following additional columns that are specific to SHA:

- `stage(integer(1))`  
Stage index. Starts counting at 0.
- `repetition(integer(1))`  
Repetition index. Start counting at 1.

## Super classes

```
mlr3tuning::Tuner -> mlr3tuning::TunerBatch -> mlr3tuning::TunerBatchFromOptimizerBatch
-> TunerBatchSuccessiveHalving
```

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `TunerBatchSuccessiveHalving$new()`
- `TunerBatchSuccessiveHalving$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Creates a new instance of this R6 class.

*Usage:*

```
TunerBatchSuccessiveHalving$new()
```

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
TunerBatchSuccessiveHalving$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Source

Jamieson K, Talwalkar A (2016). “Non-stochastic Best Arm Identification and Hyperparameter Optimization.” In Gretton A, Robert CC (eds.), *Proceedings of the 19th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics*, volume 51 series Proceedings of Machine Learning Research, 240-248. <http://proceedings.mlr.press/v51/jamieson16.html>.

## Examples

```
if(requireNamespace("xgboost")) {
  library(mlr3learners)

  # define hyperparameter and budget parameter
  search_space = ps(
    nrounds = p_int(lower = 1, upper = 16, tags = "budget"),
    eta = p_dbl(lower = 0, upper = 1),
    booster = p_fct(levels = c("gbtree", "gblinear", "dart"))
  )
}
```

```
# hyperparameter tuning on the pima indians diabetes data set
instance = tune(
  tnr("successive_halving"),
  task = tsk("pima"),
  learner = lrn("classif.xgboost", eval_metric = "logloss"),
  resampling = rsmp("cv", folds = 3),
  measures = msr("classif.ce"),
  search_space = search_space,
  term_evals = 100
)

# best performing hyperparameter configuration
instance$result
}
```

# Index

bbotk::Archive, [6](#), [8](#), [11](#), [14](#), [17](#), [21](#)  
bbotk::ArchiveAsync, [6](#)  
bbotk::mlr\_optimizers, [5](#), [8](#), [11](#)  
bbotk::opt(), [5](#), [8](#), [11](#)  
bbotk::OptimInstanceAsyncMultiCrit, [6](#)  
bbotk::OptimInstanceAsyncSingleCrit, [6](#)  
bbotk::Optimizer, [5](#), [6](#), [8](#), [9](#), [11](#), [12](#)  
bbotk::OptimizerAsync, [6](#)  
bbotk::OptimizerBatch, [9](#), [12](#)  
bbotk::Terminator, [8](#), [11](#), [12](#), [16](#), [17](#), [20](#)

data.table::data.table(), [5](#), [6](#)  
dictionary, [5](#), [8](#), [11](#), [14](#), [16](#), [19](#)

hyperband\_budget, [3](#)  
hyperband\_n\_configs, [4](#)  
hyperband\_schedule, [4](#)

mlr3::Task, [14](#), [16](#), [19](#)  
mlr3hyperband (mlr3hyperband-package), [2](#)  
mlr3hyperband-package, [2](#)  
mlr3pipelines::GraphLearner, [14](#), [16](#), [19](#)  
mlr3pipelines::PipeOpSubsample, [14](#), [16](#), [19](#)  
mlr3tuning::mlr\_tuners, [14](#), [16](#), [19](#)  
mlr3tuning::tnr(), [14](#), [16](#), [19](#)  
mlr3tuning::Tuner, [14](#), [16](#), [17](#), [19](#), [21](#)  
mlr3tuning::TunerAsync, [14](#)  
mlr3tuning::TunerAsyncFromOptimizerAsync, [14](#)  
mlr3tuning::TunerBatch, [17](#), [21](#)  
mlr3tuning::TunerBatchFromOptimizerBatch, [17](#), [21](#)  
mlr\_optimizers\_async\_successive\_halving, [5](#)  
mlr\_optimizers\_hyperband, [7](#)  
mlr\_optimizers\_successive\_halving, [10](#)  
mlr\_tuners\_async\_successive\_halving, [13](#)  
mlr\_tuners\_hyperband, [15](#)

mlr\_tuners\_successive\_halving, [19](#)

OptimizerAsyncSuccessiveHalving  
(mlr\_optimizers\_async\_successive\_halving), [5](#)

OptimizerBatchHyperband  
(mlr\_optimizers\_hyperband), [7](#)

OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving, [5](#), [13](#)

OptimizerBatchSuccessiveHalving  
(mlr\_optimizers\_successive\_halving), [10](#)

paradox::Sampler, [5](#), [6](#), [8](#), [11](#), [12](#), [14](#), [16](#), [17](#), [19](#), [20](#)

R6, [6](#), [9](#), [12](#), [15](#), [17](#), [21](#)

Successive Halving Algorithm, [7](#), [15](#)

TunerAsyncSuccessiveHalving  
(mlr\_tuners\_async\_successive\_halving), [13](#)

TunerBatchHyperband  
(mlr\_tuners\_hyperband), [15](#)

TunerBatchSuccessiveHalving  
(mlr\_tuners\_successive\_halving), [19](#)