

# Package ‘spatsoc’

October 14, 2022

**Title** Group Animal Relocation Data by Spatial and Temporal Relationship

**Version** 0.1.16

**Description** Detects spatial and temporal groups in GPS relocations (Robitaille et al. (2020) <[doi:10.1111/2041-210X.13215](https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.13215)>). It can be used to convert GPS relocations to gambit-of-the-group format to build proximity-based social networks. In addition, the randomizations function provides data-stream randomization methods suitable for GPS data.

**Depends** R (>= 3.4)

**License** GPL-3 | file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Imports** data.table (>= 1.10.5), sp, rgeos, adehabitatHR, igraph, methods

**Suggests** testthat (>= 2.1.0), knitr, rmarkdown, asnipe, markdown

**SystemRequirements** GEOS (>= 3.2.0)

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.1

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**BugReports** <https://github.com/ropensci/spatsoc/issues>

**URL** <https://docs.ropensci.org/spatsoc/>,  
<https://github.com/ropensci/spatsoc>,  
<http://spatsoc.robitalec.ca>

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Alec L. Robitaille [aut, cre] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4706-1762>>),  
Quinn Webber [aut] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0434-9360>>),  
Eric Vander Wal [aut] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8534-4317>>)

**Maintainer** Alec L. Robitaille <[robit.alec@gmail.com](mailto:robit.alec@gmail.com)>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2021-02-24 06:50:02 UTC

## R topics documented:

build_lines . . . . .	2
build_polys . . . . .	4
DT . . . . .	6
dyad_id . . . . .	7
edge_dist . . . . .	8
edge_nn . . . . .	10
get_gbi . . . . .	12
group_lines . . . . .	13
group_polys . . . . .	16
group_pts . . . . .	18
group_times . . . . .	20
randomizations . . . . .	21
spatsoc . . . . .	24

<b>Index</b>	<b>26</b>
--------------	-----------

---

build_lines	<i>Build Lines</i>
-------------	--------------------

---

### Description

build\_lines creates a SpatialLines object from a data.table. The function accepts a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers a sorting column and a projection. The relocation data is transformed into SpatialLines for each individual and optionally, each splitBy. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates.

### Usage

```
build_lines(
  DT = NULL,
  projection = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  sortBy = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

DT	input data.table
projection	character string defining the projection to be passed to sp::CRS. For example, for UTM zone 36S (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is 'EPSG:32736'. See details.
id	Character string of ID column name
coords	Character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names

sortBy	Character string of date time column(s) to sort rows by. Must be a POSIXct.
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the grouping will be calculated

### Details

The projection argument expects a character string defining the EPSG code. For example, for UTM zone 36N (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is 'EPSG:32736'. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes. Please note, R spatial has followed updates to GDAL and PROJ for handling projections, see more at <https://www.r-spatial.org/r/2020/03/17/wkt.html>.

The sortBy is used to order the input data .table when creating SpatialLines. It must a POSIXct to ensure the rows are sorted by date time.

The splitBy argument offers further control building SpatialLines. If in your DT, you have multiple temporal groups (e.g.: years) for example, you can provide the name of the column which identifies them and build SpatialLines for each individual in each year.

build\_lines is used by group\_lines for grouping overlapping lines created from relocations.

### Value

build\_lines returns a SpatialLines object with a line for each individual (and optionally splitBy combination).

An error is returned when an individual has less than 2 relocations, making it impossible to build a line.

### See Also

[group\\_lines](#)

Other Build functions: [build\\_polys\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]

# EPSG code for example data
utm <- 'EPSG:32736'

# Build lines for each individual
lines <- build_lines(DT, projection = utm, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  sortBy = 'datetime')

# Build lines for each individual by year
DT[, yr := year(datetime)]
```

```
lines <- build_lines(DT, projection = utm, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  sortBy = 'datetime', splitBy = 'yr')
```

---

 build\_polys

*Build Polygons*


---

### Description

build\_polys creates a SpatialPolygons object from a data.table. The function accepts a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers, a projection, hrType and hrParams. The relocation data is transformed into SpatialPolygons for each individual and optionally, each splitBy. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates.

### Usage

```
build_polys(
  DT = NULL,
  projection = NULL,
  hrType = NULL,
  hrParams = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  spPts = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

DT	input data.table
projection	character string defining the projection to be passed to sp::CRS. For example, for UTM zone 36S (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is 'EPSG:32736'. See details.
hrType	type of HR estimation, either 'mcp' or 'kernel'
hrParams	a named list of parameters for adehabitatHR functions
id	Character string of ID column name
coords	Character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the grouping will be calculated
spPts	alternatively, provide solely a SpatialPointsDataFrame with one column representing the ID of each point.

## Details

The DT must be a `data.table`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT`.

The `id`, `coords` (and optional `splitBy`) arguments expect the names of respective columns in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, X and Y coordinates, and additional grouping columns.

The `projection` argument expects a character string defining the EPSG code. For example, for UTM zone 36N (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is "EPSG:32736". See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes. Please note, R spatial has followed updates to GDAL and PROJ for handling projections, see more at <https://www.r-spatial.org/r/2020/03/17/wkt.html>. It is likely that `build_polys` will return "Warning in proj4string(xy) : CRS object has comment, which is lost in output" due to these changes.

The `hrType` must be either one of "kernel" or "mcp". The `hrParams` must be a named list of arguments matching those of `adehabitathr::kernelUD` and `adehabitathr::getverticeshr` or `adehabitathr::mcp`.

The `splitBy` argument offers further control building `SpatialPolygons`. If in your DT, you have multiple temporal groups (e.g.: years) for example, you can provide the name of the column which identifies them and build `SpatialPolygons` for each individual in each year.

`group_polys` uses `build_polys` for grouping overlapping polygons created from relocations.

## Value

`build_polys` returns a `SpatialPolygons` object with a polygon for each individual (and optionally `splitBy` combination).

An error is returned when `hrParams` do not match the arguments of the `hrType` `adehabitathr` function.

## See Also

[group\\_polys](#)

Other Build functions: [build\\_lines\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]

# EPSG code for example data
utm <- 'EPSG:32736'

# Build polygons for each individual using kernelUD and getverticeshr
```

```

build_polys(DT, projection = utm, hrType = 'kernel',
            hrParams = list(grid = 60, percent = 95),
            id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'))

# Build polygons for each individual by year
DT[, yr := year(datetime)]
build_polys(DT, projection = utm, hrType = 'mcp', hrParams = list(percent = 95),
            id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'), splitBy = 'yr')

# Build polygons from SpatialPointsDataFrame
library(sp)
pts <- SpatialPointsDataFrame(coords = DT[, .(X, Y)],
                             proj4string = CRS(utm),
                             data = DT[, .(ID)]
)

build_polys(spPts = pts, hrType = 'mcp', hrParams = list(percent = 95))

```

---

DT

*Movement of 10 "Newfoundland Bog Cows"*


---

## Description

A dataset containing the GPS relocations of 10 individuals in winter 2016-2017.

## Format

A data.table with 14297 rows and 5 variables:

**ID** individual identifier

**X** X coordinate of the relocation (UTM 36N)

**Y** Y coordinate of the relocation (UTM 36N)

**datetime** character string representing the date time

**population** sub population within the individuals

## Examples

```

# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

```

---

dyad_id	<i>Dyad ID</i>
---------	----------------

---

### Description

Generate a dyad ID for edge list generated by [edge\\_nn](#) or [edge\\_dist](#).

### Usage

```
dyad_id(DT = NULL, id1 = NULL, id2 = NULL)
```

### Arguments

DT	input data.table with columns id1 and id2, as generated by <a href="#">edge_dist</a> or <a href="#">edge_nn</a>
id1	ID1 column name generated by <a href="#">edge_dist</a> or <a href="#">edge_nn</a>
id2	ID2 column name generated by <a href="#">edge_dist</a> or <a href="#">edge_nn</a>

### Details

An undirected edge identifier between, for example individuals A and B will be A-B (and reverse B and A will be A-B). Internally sorts and pastes id columns.

More details in the edge and dyad vignette (in progress).

### Value

dyad\_id returns the input data.table with appended "dyadID" column

### Examples

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]

# Temporal grouping
group_times(DT, datetime = 'datetime', threshold = '20 minutes')

# Edge list generation
edges <- edge_dist(
  DT,
  threshold = 100,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  timegroup = 'timegroup',
```

```

    returnDist = TRUE,
    fillNA = TRUE
  )

  # Generate dyad IDs
  dyad_id(edges, 'ID1', 'ID2')

```

---

 edge\_dist

*Distance based edge lists*


---

### Description

edge\_dist returns edge lists defined by a spatial distance within the user defined threshold. The function accepts a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers and a threshold argument. The threshold argument is used to specify the criteria for distance between points which defines a group. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates.

### Usage

```

edge_dist(
  DT = NULL,
  threshold,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  timegroup,
  splitBy = NULL,
  returnDist = FALSE,
  fillNA = TRUE
)

```

### Arguments

DT	input data.table
threshold	distance for grouping points, in the units of the coordinates
id	Character string of ID column name
coords	Character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names
timegroup	timegroup field in the DT upon which the grouping will be calculated
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the grouping will be calculated
returnDist	boolean indicating if the distance between individuals should be returned. If FALSE (default), only ID1, ID2 columns (and timegroup, splitBy columns if provided) are returned. If TRUE, another column "distance" is returned indicating the distance between ID1 and ID2.
fillNA	boolean indicating if NAs should be returned for individuals that were not within the threshold distance of any other. If TRUE, NAs are returned. If FALSE, only edges between individuals within the threshold distance are returned.



## Details

The DT must be a `data.table`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT`.

The `id`, `coords` (and optional `timegroup` and `splitBy`) arguments expect the names of a column in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, X and Y coordinates, `timegroup` (generated by `group_times`) and additional grouping columns.

If provided, the `threshold` must be provided in the units of the coordinates and must be larger than 0. If the `threshold` is `NULL`, the distance to all other individuals will be returned. The coordinates must be planar coordinates (e.g.: UTM). In the case of UTM, a `threshold = 50` would indicate a 50m distance threshold.

The `timegroup` argument is optional, but recommended to pair with `group_times`. The intended framework is to group rows temporally with `group_times` then spatially with `edge_dist` (or grouping functions).

The `splitBy` argument offers further control over grouping. If within your DT, you have multiple populations, subgroups or other distinct parts, you can provide the name of the column which identifies them to `splitBy`. `edge_dist` will only consider rows within each `splitBy` subgroup.

## Value

`edge_dist` returns a `data.table` with columns `ID1`, `ID2`, `timegroup` (if supplied) and any columns provided in `splitBy`. If `'returnDist'` is `TRUE`, column `'distance'` is returned indicating the distance between `ID1` and `ID2`.

The `ID1` and `ID2` columns represent the edges defined by the spatial (and temporal with `group_times`) thresholds.

## See Also

Other Edge-list generation: `edge_nn()`

## Examples

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]

# Temporal grouping
group_times(DT, datetime = 'datetime', threshold = '20 minutes')

# Edge list generation
edges <- edge_dist(
  DT,
  threshold = 100,
  id = 'ID',
```

```

coords = c('X', 'Y'),
timegroup = 'timegroup',
returnDist = TRUE,
fillNA = TRUE
)

```

---

edge\_nn

*Nearest neighbour based edge lists*


---

### Description

edge\_nn returns edge lists defined by the nearest neighbour. The function accepts a `data.table` with relocation data, individual identifiers and a threshold argument. The threshold argument is used to specify the criteria for distance between points which defines a group. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates.

### Usage

```

edge_nn(
  DT = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  timegroup,
  splitBy = NULL,
  threshold = NULL,
  returnDist = FALSE
)

```

### Arguments

DT	input <code>data.table</code>
id	Character string of ID column name
coords	Character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names
timegroup	timegroup field in the DT upon which the grouping will be calculated
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the grouping will be calculated
threshold	(optional) spatial distance threshold to set maximum distance between an individual and their neighbour.
returnDist	boolean indicating if the distance between individuals should be returned. If FALSE (default), only ID, NN columns (and timegroup, splitBy columns if provided) are returned. If TRUE, another column "distance" is returned indicating the distance between ID and NN.

## Details

The DT must be a `data.table`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT`.

The `id`, `coords` (and optional `timegroup` and `splitBy`) arguments expect the names of a column in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, X and Y coordinates, `timegroup` (generated by `group_times`) and additional grouping columns.

The `threshold` must be provided in the units of the coordinates. The `threshold` must be larger than 0. The coordinates must be planar coordinates (e.g.: UTM). In the case of UTM, a `threshold = 50` would indicate a 50m distance threshold.

The `timegroup` argument is optional, but recommended to pair with `group_times`. The intended framework is to group rows temporally with `group_times` then spatially with `edge_nn` (or grouping functions).

The `splitBy` argument offers further control over grouping. If within your DT, you have multiple populations, subgroups or other distinct parts, you can provide the name of the column which identifies them to `splitBy`. `edge_nn` will only consider rows within each `splitBy` subgroup.

## Value

`edge_nn` returns a `data.table` with three columns: `timegroup`, `ID` and `NN`. If `'returnDist'` is `TRUE`, column `'distance'` is returned indicating the distance between `ID` and `NN`.

The `ID` and `NN` columns represent the edges defined by the nearest neighbours (and temporal thresholds with `group_times`).

If an individual was alone in a `timegroup` or `splitBy`, or did not have any neighbours within the `threshold` distance, they are assigned `NA` for nearest neighbour.

## See Also

Other Edge-list generation: `edge_dist()`

## Examples

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]

# Temporal grouping
group_times(DT, datetime = 'datetime', threshold = '20 minutes')

# Edge list generation
edges <- edge_nn(DT, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
                 timegroup = 'timegroup')

# Edge list generation using maximum distance threshold
```

```
edges <- edge_nn(DT, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  timegroup = 'timegroup', threshold = 100)

# Edge list generation, returning distance between nearest neighbours
edge_nn(DT, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  timegroup = 'timegroup', threshold = 100,
  returnDist = TRUE)
```

---

get\_gbi *Generate group by individual matrix*

---

### Description

get\_gbi generates a group by individual matrix. The function accepts a `data.table` with individual identifiers and a group column. The group by individual matrix can then be used to build a network using `asnipe::get_network`.

### Usage

```
get_gbi(DT = NULL, group = "group", id = NULL)
```

### Arguments

DT	input <code>data.table</code>
group	Character string of group column (generated from one of <code>spatsoc</code> 's spatial grouping functions)
id	Character string of ID column name

### Details

The DT must be a `data.table`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT`.

The group argument expects the name of a column which corresponds to an integer group identifier (generated by `spatsoc`'s grouping functions).

The id argument expects the name of a column which corresponds to the individual identifier.

### Value

get\_gbi returns a group by individual matrix (columns represent individuals and rows represent groups).

Note that get\_gbi is identical in function for turning the outputs of `spatsoc` into social networks as `asnipe::get_group_by_individual` but is more efficient thanks to `data.table::dcast`.

### See Also

[group\\_pts](#) [group\\_lines](#) [group\\_polys](#)

Other Social network tools: [randomizations\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]
DT[, yr := year(datetime)]

# EPSG code for example data
utm <- 'EPSG:32736'

group_polys(DT, area = FALSE, hrType = 'mcp',
            hrParams = list(percent = 95),
            projection = utm, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
            splitBy = 'yr')

gbiMtrx <- get_gbi(DT = DT, group = 'group', id = 'ID')
```

---

group\_lines

*Group Lines*

---

**Description**

group\_lines groups rows into spatial groups by creating trajectories and grouping based on spatial overlap. The function accepts a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers and a threshold. The relocation data is transformed into SpatialLines and overlapping SpatialLines are grouped. The threshold argument is used to specify the criteria for distance between lines. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates.

**Usage**

```
group_lines(
  DT = NULL,
  threshold = NULL,
  projection = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  timegroup = NULL,
  sortBy = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  spLines = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

DT	input data.table
threshold	The width of the buffer around the lines in the units of the projection. Supply 0 to compare intersection without buffering.
projection	character string defining the projection to be passed to <code>sp::CRS</code> . For example, for UTM zone 36S (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is 'EPSG:32736'. See details.
id	Character string of ID column name
coords	Character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names
timegroup	timegroup field in the DT upon which the grouping will be calculated
sortBy	Character string of date time column(s) to sort rows by. Must be a POSIXct.
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the grouping will be calculated
spLines	Alternatively to providing a DT, provide a SpatialLines object created with the sp package. If a spLines object is provided, groups cannot be calculated by a timegroup or splitBy.

## Details

The DT must be a data.table. If your data is a data.frame, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT`.

The id, coords, sortBy (and optional timegroup and splitBy) arguments expect the names of respective columns in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, X and Y coordinates, sorting, timegroup (generated by `group_times`) and additional grouping columns.

The projection argument expects a character string defining the EPSG code. For example, for UTM zone 36N (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is "EPSG:32736". See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes. Please note, R spatial has followed updates to GDAL and PROJ for handling projections, see more at <https://www.r-spatial.org/r/2020/03/17/wkt.html>. It is likely that `build_polys` will return "Warning in proj4string(xy) : CRS object has comment, which is lost in output" due to these changes.

The sortBy is used to order the input data.table when creating SpatialLines. It must be a POSIXct to ensure the rows are sorted by date time.

The threshold must be provided in the units of the coordinates. The threshold can be equal to 0 if strict overlap is required, else it needs to be greater than 0. The coordinates must be planar coordinates (e.g.: UTM). In the case of UTM, a threshold = 50 would indicate a 50m distance threshold.

The timegroup argument is optional, but recommended to pair with `group_times`. The intended framework is to group rows temporally with `group_times` then spatially with `group_lines` (or `group_pts`, `group_polys`). With `group_lines`, pick a relevant `group_times` threshold such as '1 day' or '7 days' which is informed by your study species and system.

The splitBy argument offers further control over grouping. If within your DT, you have multiple populations, subgroups or other distinct parts, you can provide the name of the column which identifies them to splitBy. The grouping performed by `group_lines` will only consider rows within each splitBy subgroup.

**Value**

group\_lines returns the input DT appended with a group column.

This column represents the spatial (and if timegroup was provided - spatiotemporal) group calculated by overlapping lines. As with the other grouping functions, the actual value of group is arbitrary and represents the identity of a given group where 1 or more individuals are assigned to a group. If the data was reordered, the group may change, but the contents of each group would not.

A message is returned when a column named group already exists in the input DT, because it will be overwritten.

**See Also**

[build\\_lines](#) [group\\_times](#)

Other Spatial grouping: [group\\_polys\(\)](#), [group\\_pts\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Subset only individuals A, B, and C
DT <- DT[ID %in% c('A', 'B', 'C')]

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]

# EPSG code for example data
utm <- 'EPSG:32736'

group_lines(DT, threshold = 50, projection = utm, sortBy = 'datetime',
            id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'))

## Daily movement tracks
# Temporal grouping
group_times(DT, datetime = 'datetime', threshold = '1 day')

# Subset only first 50 days
DT <- DT[timegroup < 25]

# Spatial grouping
group_lines(DT, threshold = 50, projection = utm,
            id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
            timegroup = 'timegroup', sortBy = 'datetime')

## Daily movement tracks by population
group_lines(DT, threshold = 50, projection = utm,
            id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
            timegroup = 'timegroup', sortBy = 'datetime',
```

```
splitBy = 'population')
```

---

group\_polys

*Group Polygons*

---

### Description

group\_polys groups rows into spatial groups by overlapping polygons (home ranges). The function accepts a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers and an area argument. The relocation data is transformed into home range SpatialPolygons. If the area argument is FALSE, group\_polys returns grouping calculated by overlap. If the area argument is TRUE, the area and proportion of overlap is calculated. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates.

### Usage

```
group_polys(
  DT = NULL,
  area = NULL,
  hrType = NULL,
  hrParams = NULL,
  projection = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  spPolys = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

DT	input data.table
area	boolean indicating either overlap group (when FALSE) or area and proportion of overlap (when TRUE)
hrType	type of HR estimation, either 'mcp' or 'kernel'
hrParams	a named list of parameters for adehabitatHR functions
projection	character string defining the projection to be passed to sp::CRS. For example, for UTM zone 36S (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is 'EPSG:32736'. See details.
id	Character string of ID column name
coords	Character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the grouping will be calculated
spPolys	Alternatively, provide solely a SpatialPolygons object



## Details

The DT must be a `data.table`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT`.

The `id`, `coords` (and optional `splitBy`) arguments expect the names of respective columns in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, X and Y coordinates, and additional grouping columns.

The `projection` argument expects a character string defining the EPSG code. For example, for UTM zone 36N (EPSG 32736), the `projection` argument is `'EPSG:32736'`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes. Please note, R spatial has followed updates to GDAL and PROJ for handling projections, see more at <https://www.r-spatial.org/r/2020/03/17/wkt.html>. It is likely that `build_polys` will return "Warning in proj4string(xy) : CRS object has comment, which is lost in output" due to these changes.

The `hrType` must be either one of `"kernel"` or `"mcp"`. The `hrParams` must be a named list of arguments matching those of `adehabitathR::kernelUD` or `adehabitathR::mcp`.

The `splitBy` argument offers further control over grouping. If within your DT, you have multiple populations, subgroups or other distinct parts, you can provide the name of the column which identifies them to `splitBy`. The grouping performed by `group_polys` will only consider rows within each `splitBy` subgroup.

## Value

When `area` is `FALSE`, `group_polys` returns the input DT appended with a `group` column. As with the other grouping functions, the actual value of `group` is arbitrary and represents the identity of a given group where 1 or more individuals are assigned to a group. If the data was reordered, the group may change, but the contents of each group would not. When `area` is `TRUE`, `group_polys` returns a proportional area overlap `data.table`. In this case, `ID` refers to the focal individual of which the total area is compared against the overlapping area of `ID2`.

If `area` is `FALSE`, a message is returned when a column named `group` already exists in the input DT, because it will be overwritten.

## See Also

[build\\_polys group\\_times](#)

Other Spatial grouping: [group\\_lines\(\)](#), [group\\_pts\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]

# EPSG code for example data
utm <- 'EPSG:32736'
```

```

group_polys(DT, area = FALSE, hrType = 'mcp',
            hrParams = list(percent = 95), projection = utm,
            id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'))

areaDT <- group_polys(DT, area = TRUE, hrType = 'mcp',
                    hrParams = list(percent = 95), projection = utm,
                    id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'))

```

---

group\_pts

*Group Points*


---

### Description

group\_pts groups rows into spatial groups. The function accepts a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers and a threshold argument. The threshold argument is used to specify the criteria for distance between points which defines a group. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates.

### Usage

```

group_pts(
  DT = NULL,
  threshold = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  timegroup,
  splitBy = NULL
)

```

### Arguments

DT	input data.table
threshold	distance for grouping points, in the units of the coordinates
id	Character string of ID column name
coords	Character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names
timegroup	timegroup field in the DT upon which the grouping will be calculated
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the grouping will be calculated

### Details

The DT must be a data.table. If your data is a data.frame, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT`.

The id, coords (and optional timegroup and splitBy) arguments expect the names of a column in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, X and Y coordinates, timegroup (generated by group\_times) and additional grouping columns.

The threshold must be provided in the units of the coordinates. The threshold must be larger than 0. The coordinates must be planar coordinates (e.g.: UTM). In the case of UTM, a threshold = 50 would indicate a 50m distance threshold.

The timegroup argument is optional, but recommended to pair with [group\\_times](#). The intended framework is to group rows temporally with [group\\_times](#) then spatially with [group\\_pts](#) (or [group\\_lines](#), [group\\_polys](#)).

The splitBy argument offers further control over grouping. If within your DT, you have multiple populations, subgroups or other distinct parts, you can provide the name of the column which identifies them to splitBy. The grouping performed by [group\\_pts](#) will only consider rows within each splitBy subgroup.

### Value

[group\\_pts](#) returns the input DT appended with a group column.

This column represents the spatial (and if timegroup was provided - spatiotemporal) group. As with the other grouping functions, the actual value of group is arbitrary and represents the identity of a given group where 1 or more individuals are assigned to a group. If the data was reordered, the group may change, but the contents of each group would not.

A message is returned when a column named group already exists in the input DT, because it will be overwritten.

### See Also

[group\\_times](#)

Other Spatial grouping: [group\\_lines\(\)](#), [group\\_polys\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]

# Temporal grouping
group_times(DT, datetime = 'datetime', threshold = '20 minutes')

# Spatial grouping with timegroup
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID',
          coords = c('X', 'Y'), timegroup = 'timegroup')

# Spatial grouping with timegroup and splitBy on population
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
          timegroup = 'timegroup', splitBy = 'population')
```

group\_times

*Group Times***Description**

group\_times groups rows into time groups. The function accepts date time formatted data and a threshold argument. The threshold argument is used to specify a time window within which rows are grouped.

**Usage**

```
group_times(DT = NULL, datetime = NULL, threshold = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table
datetime	name of date time column(s). either 1 POSIXct or 2 IDate and ITime. e.g.: 'datetime' or c('idate', 'itime')
threshold	threshold for grouping times. e.g.: '2 hours', '10 minutes', etc. if not provided, times will be matched exactly. Note that provided threshold must be in the expected format: '## unit'

**Details**

The DT must be a data.table. If your data is a data.frame, you can convert it by reference using [data.table::setDT](#).

The datetime argument expects the name of a column in DT which is of type POSIXct or the name of two columns in DT which are of type IDate and ITime.

threshold must be provided in units of minutes, hours or days. The character string should start with an integer followed by a unit, separated by a space. It is interpreted in terms of 24 hours which poses the following limitations:

- minutes, hours and days cannot be fractional
- minutes must divide evenly into 60
- minutes must not exceed 60
- minutes, hours which are nearer to the next day, are grouped as such
- hours must divide evenly into 24
- multi-day blocks should divide into the range of days, else the blocks may not be the same length

In addition, the threshold is considered a fixed window throughout the time series and the rows are grouped to the nearest interval.

If threshold is NULL, rows are grouped using the datetime column directly.

**Value**

`group_times` returns the input DT appended with a `timegroup` column and additional temporal grouping columns to help investigate, troubleshoot and interpret the timegroup.

The actual value of `timegroup` is arbitrary and represents the identity of a given timegroup which 1 or more individuals are assigned to. If the data was reordered, the group may change, but the contents of each group would not.

The temporal grouping columns added depend on the threshold provided:

- threshold with unit minutes: "minutes" column added identifying the nearest minute group for each row.
- threshold with unit hours: "hours" column added identifying the nearest hour group for each row.
- threshold with unit days: "block" columns added identifying the multiday block for each row.

A message is returned when any of these columns already exist in the input DT, because they will be overwritten.

**See Also**

[group\\_pts](#) [group\\_lines](#) [group\\_polys](#)

**Examples**

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Cast the character column to POSIXct
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime, tz = 'UTC')]

group_times(DT, datetime = 'datetime', threshold = '5 minutes')

group_times(DT, datetime = 'datetime', threshold = '2 hours')

group_times(DT, datetime = 'datetime', threshold = '10 days')
```

**Description**

`randomizations` performs data-stream social network randomization. The function accepts a `data.table` with relocation data, individual identifiers and a randomization type. The `data.table` is randomized either using `step` or `daily` between-individual methods, or `within-individual` daily trajectory method described by Spiegel et al. (2016).

**Usage**

```
randomizations(
  DT = NULL,
  type = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  group = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  datetime = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  iterations = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table
type	one of 'daily', 'step' or 'trajectory' - see details
id	Character string of ID column name
group	generated from spatial grouping functions - see details
coords	Character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names
datetime	field used for providing date time or time group - see details
splitBy	List of fields in DT to split the randomization process by
iterations	The number of iterations to randomize

**Details**

The DT must be a data.table. If your data is a data.frame, you can convert it by reference using [data.table::setDT](#).

Three randomization types are provided:

1. step - randomizes identities of relocations between individuals within each time step.
2. daily - randomizes identities of relocations between individuals within each day.
3. trajectory - randomizes daily trajectories within individuals (Spiegel et al. 2016).

Depending on the type, the datetime must be a certain format:

- step - datetime is integer group created by group\_times
- daily - datetime is POSIXct format
- trajectory - datetime is POSIXct format

The id, datetime, (and optional splitBy) arguments expect the names of respective columns in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, date time, and additional grouping columns. The coords argument is only required when the type is "trajectory", since the coordinates are required for recalculating spatial groups with group\_pts, group\_lines or group\_polys.

Please note that if the data extends over multiple years, a column indicating the year should be provided to the splitBy argument. This will ensure randomizations only occur within each year.

The group argument is expected only when type is 'step' or 'daily'.

For example, using [data.table::year](#):

```
DT[, yr := year(datetime)] randomizations(DT, type = 'step',
id = 'ID', datetime = 'timegroup', splitBy = 'yr')
```

iterations is set to 1 if not provided. Take caution with a large value for iterations with large input DT.

### Value

randomizations returns the random date time or random id along with the original DT, depending on the randomization type. The length of the returned data.table is the original number of rows multiplied by the number of iterations + 1. For example, 3 iterations will return 4x - one observed and three randomized.

Two columns are always returned:

- observed - if the rows represent the observed (TRUE/FALSE)
- iteration - iteration of rows (where 0 is the observed)

In addition, depending on the randomization type, random ID or random date time columns are returned:

- step - randomID each time step
- daily - randomID for each day and jul indicating julian day
- trajectory - a random date time ("random" prefixed to datetime argument), observed jul and randomJul indicating the random day relocations are swapped to.

### References

<https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/2041-210X.12553>

### See Also

Other Social network tools: [get\\_gbi\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
# Load data.table
library(data.table)

# Read example data
DT <- fread(system.file("extdata", "DT.csv", package = "spatsoc"))

# Date time columns
DT[, datetime := as.POSIXct(datetime)]
DT[, yr := year(datetime)]

# Temporal grouping
group_times(DT, datetime = 'datetime', threshold = '5 minutes')

# Spatial grouping with timegroup
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'), timegroup = 'timegroup')
```

```
# Randomization: step
randStep <- randomizations(
  DT,
  type = 'step',
  id = 'ID',
  group = 'group',
  datetime = 'timegroup',
  splitBy = 'yr',
  iterations = 2
)

# Randomization: daily
randDaily <- randomizations(
  DT,
  type = 'daily',
  id = 'ID',
  group = 'group',
  datetime = 'datetime',
  splitBy = 'yr',
  iterations = 2
)

# Randomization: trajectory
randTraj <- randomizations(
  DT,
  type = 'trajectory',
  id = 'ID',
  group = NULL,
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  datetime = 'datetime',
  splitBy = 'yr',
  iterations = 2
)
```

---

spatsoc

*spatsoc*

---

## Description

spatsoc is an R package for detecting spatial and temporal groups in GPS relocations. It can be used to convert GPS relocations to gambit-of-the-group format to build proximity-based social networks. In addition, the randomization function provides data-stream randomization methods suitable for GPS data.

## Details

The spatsoc package provides one temporal grouping function:



- [group\\_times](#)

three spatial grouping functions:

- [group\\_pts](#)
- [group\\_lines](#)
- [group\\_polys](#)

two edge list generating functions:

- [edge\\_dist](#)
- [edge\\_nn](#)

and two social network functions:

- [randomizations](#)
- [get\\_gbi](#)

#### **Author(s)**

**Maintainer:** Alec L. Robitaille <[robit.alec@gmail.com](mailto:robit.alec@gmail.com)> ([ORCID](#))

Authors:

- Quinn Webber ([ORCID](#))
- Eric Vander Wal ([ORCID](#))

#### **See Also**

Useful links:

- <https://docs.ropensci.org/spatsoc/>
- <https://github.com/ropensci/spatsoc>
- <http://spatsoc.robital.ec.ca>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/ropensci/spatsoc/issues>

# Index

- \* **Build functions**
    - build\_lines, 2
    - build\_polys, 4
  - \* **Edge-list generation**
    - edge\_dist, 8
    - edge\_nn, 10
  - \* **Social network tools**
    - get\_gbi, 12
    - randomizations, 21
  - \* **Spatial grouping**
    - group\_lines, 13
    - group\_polys, 16
    - group\_pts, 18
  - \* **Temporal grouping**
    - group\_times, 20
- `_PACKAGE (spatsoc)`, 24
- asnipe::get\_group\_by\_individual, 12
- asnipe::get\_network, 12
- build\_lines, 2, 5, 15
- build\_polys, 3, 4, 17
- data.table::dcast, 12
- data.table::setDT, 5, 9, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 20, 22
- data.table::year, 22
- DT, 6
- dyad\_id, 7
- edge\_dist, 7, 8, 11, 25
- edge\_nn, 7, 9, 10, 25
- get\_gbi, 12, 23, 25
- group\_lines, 3, 12, 13, 17, 19, 21, 25
- group\_polys, 5, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 25
- group\_pts, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 25
- group\_times, 9, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 25
- randomizations, 12, 21, 25
- spatsoc, 12, 24
- spatsoc-package (spatsoc), 24