

# Package: spatloc (via r-universe)

July 5, 2024

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

**Version** 0.2.3

**Description** Detects spatial and temporal groups in GPS relocations (Robitaille et al. (2019) <doi: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.

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**URL** <https://docs.ropensci.org/spatloc/>,  
<https://github.com/ropensci/spatloc>

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

**Depends** R (>= 3.4)

**Imports** adehabitatHR (>= 0.4.21), data.table (>= 1.10.5), igraph, sf, stats, units

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**Repository** <https://ropensci.r-universe.dev>

**RemoteUrl** <https://github.com/ropensci/spatloc>

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build_lines	<i>Build Lines</i>
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### Description

build\_lines generates a simple feature collection with LINESTRINGs 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 LINESTRINGs for each individual and, optionally, combination of columns listed in 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	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to sf::st_crs. For example, either projection = "EPSG:32736" or projection = 32736.
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

### R-spatial evolution:

Please note, spatsoc has followed updates from R spatial, GDAL and PROJ for handling projections, see more at <https://r-spatial.org/r/2020/03/17/wkt.html>.

In addition, build\_lines previously used `sp::SpatialLines` but has been updated to use `sf::st_as_sf` and `sf::st_linestring` according to the R-spatial evolution, see more at <https://r-spatial.org/r/2022/04/12/evolution.html>.

### Notes on arguments:

The projection argument expects a numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system. For example, for UTM zone 36N (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is either `projection = 'EPSG:32736'` or `projection = 32736`. See details in `sf::st_crs()` and <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.

The `sortBy` argument is used to order the input DT when creating sf LINESTRINGs. It must a column in the input DT of type POSIXct to ensure the rows are sorted by date time.

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

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

## Value

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

Individuals (or combinations of individuals and splitBy) with less than two relocations are dropped since it requires at least two relocations 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 <- 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 generates a simple feature collection with POLYGONS from a data.table. The function accepts a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers, a projection, home range type and parameters. The relocation data is transformed into POLYGONS using either [adehabitatHR::mcp](#) or [adehabitatHR::kernelUD](#) for each individual and, optionally, combination of columns listed in 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	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <a href="#">sf::st_crs</a> . For example, either projection = "EPSG:32736" or projection = 32736.
hrType	type of HR estimation, either 'mcp' or 'kernel'
hrParams	a named list of parameters for <a href="#">adehabitatHR</a> 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, as specified by <code>adehabitatHR::mcp</code> or <code>adehabitatHR::kernelUD</code>

## Details

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

### R-spatial evolution:

Please note, `spatsoc` has followed updates from R spatial, GDAL and PROJ for handling projections, see more below and details at <https://r-spatial.org/r/2020/03/17/wkt.html>.

In addition, `build_polys` previously used `sp::SpatialPoints` but has been updated to use `sf::st_as_sf` according to the R-spatial evolution, see more at <https://r-spatial.org/r/2022/04/12/evolution.html>.

### Notes on arguments:

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 or numeric defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to `sf::st_crs`. For example, for UTM zone 36S (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is `projection = "EPSG:32736"` or `projection = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.

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 POLYGONS. 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 POLYGONS for each individual in each year.

## Value

`build_polys` returns a simple feature collection with POLYGONS for each individual (and optionally `splitBy` combination).

An error is returned when `hrParams` do not match the arguments of the respective `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 <- 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')
```

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 <code>data.table</code>
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 within 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` `timegroup` (and optional `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 required to define the temporal groups within which edges are calculated. The intended framework is to group rows temporally with `group_times` then spatially with `edge_dist`. If you have already calculated temporal groups without `group_times`, you can pass this column to the `timegroup` argument. Note that the expectation is that each individual will be observed only once per `timegroup`. Caution that accidentally including huge numbers of rows within `timegroups` can overload your machine since all pairwise distances are calculated within each `timegroup`.

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 within 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`, `timegroup` (and optional `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 required to define the temporal groups within which edge nearest neighbours are calculated. The intended framework is to group rows temporally with `group_times` then spatially with `edge_nn`. If you have already calculated temporal groups without `group_times`, you can pass this column to the `timegroup` argument. Note that the expectation is that each individual will be observed only once per `timegroup`. Caution that accidentally including huge numbers of rows within `timegroups` can overload your machine since all pairwise distances are calculated within each `timegroup`.

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"))

# Select only individuals A, B, C for this example
DT <- DT[ID %in% c('A', 'B', 'C')]

# 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 generating LINESTRINGs and grouping based on spatial intersection. The function accepts a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers and a distance threshold. The relocation data is transformed into sf LINESTRINGs using [build\\_lines](#) and intersecting LINESTRINGs are grouped. The threshold argument is used to specify the distance criteria for grouping. 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,
  sfLines = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table
threshold	The width of the buffer around the lines in the units of the projection. Use <code>threshold = 0</code> to compare intersection without buffering.
projection	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>projection = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>projection = 32736</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 within 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
sfLines	Alternatively to providing a DT, provide a simple feature LINESTRING object generated with the sf package. The id argument is required to provide the identifier matching each LINESTRING. If an sfLines object is provided, groups cannot be calculated by timegroup or splitBy.

**Details****R-spatial evolution:**

Please note, spatsoc has followed updates from R spatial, GDAL and PROJ for handling projections, see more at <https://r-spatial.org/r/2020/03/17/wkt.html>.

In addition, `group_lines` (and `build_lines`) previously used `sp::SpatialLines`, `rgeos::gIntersects`, `rgeos::gBuffer` but have been updated to use `sf::st_as_sf`, `sf::st_linestring`, `sf::st_intersects`, and `sf::st_buffer` according to the R-spatial evolution, see more at <https://r-spatial.org/r/2022/04/12/evolution.html>.

**Notes on arguments:**

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 numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system. For example, for UTM zone 36N (EPSG 32736), the `projection` argument is either `projection = 'EPSG:32736'` or `projection = 32736`. See details in `sf::st_crs()` and <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.

The `sortBy` argument is used to order the input DT when creating sf LINESTRINGs. It must be a column in the input DT of type 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 intended, otherwise it should be some value 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, system or question.

The `splitBy` argument offers further control building LINESTRINGs. If in your input DT, you have multiple temporal groups (e.g.: years) for example, you can provide the name of the column which identifies them and build LINESTRINGs for each individual in each year. 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 intersecting 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 <- 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 POLYGONS using build\_polys() with adehabitatHR::mcp or adehabitatHR::kernelUD. If the area argument is FALSE, group\_polys returns grouping calculated by spatial overlap. If the area argument is TRUE, group\_polys returns the area area and proportion of overlap. 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,
    sfPolys = 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	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>projection = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>projection = 32736</code> .
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
sfPolys	Alternatively, provide solely a simple features object with POLYGONS or MULTIPOLYGONS. If sfPolys are provided, id is required and splitBy cannot be used.

## Details

### R-spatial evolution:

Please note, spatSoc has followed updates from R spatial, GDAL and PROJ for handling projections, see more below and details at <https://r-spatial.org/r/2020/03/17/wkt.html>.

In addition, group\_polys previously used `rgeos::gIntersection`, `rgeos::gIntersects` and `rgeos::gArea` but has been updated to use `sf::st_intersects`, `sf::st_intersection` and `sf::st_area` according to the R-spatial evolution, see more at <https://r-spatial.org/r/2022/04/12/evolution.html>.

### Notes on arguments:

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 or numeric defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to `sf::st_crs`. For example, for UTM zone 36S (EPSG 32736), the projection argument is `projection = "EPSG:32736"` or `projection = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.

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.

Along with changes to follow the R-spatial evolution, `group_polys` also now returns `area` and proportion of overlap with units explicitly specified through the `units` package.

### 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 <- 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'))

print(areaDT)
```

---

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 within 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, timegroup (and optional splitBy) arguments expect the names of a column in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, X and Y coordinates, timegroup (typically 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 required to define the temporal groups within which spatial groups are calculated. The intended framework is to group rows temporally with [group\\_times](#) then spatially with group\_pts (or [group\\_lines](#), [group\\_polys](#)). If you have already calculated temporal groups

without `group_times`, you can pass this column to the `timegroup` argument. Note that the expectation is that each individual will be observed only once per `timegroup`. Caution that accidentally including huge numbers of rows within `timegroups` can overload your machine since all pairwise distances are calculated within each `timegroup`.

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 spatialtemporal 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"))

# Select only individuals A, B, C for this example
DT <- DT[ID %in% c('A', 'B', 'C')]

# 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 `trajectory` 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**

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

[doi:10.1111/2041-210X.12553](https://doi.org/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"))

# Select only individuals A, B, C for this example
DT <- DT[ID %in% c('A', 'B', 'C')]

# 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  
  )
```

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