

# Package ‘spatsoc’

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**Title** Group Animal Relocation Data by Spatial and Temporal Relationship and Measure Intragroup Social Dynamics

**Version** 0.2.13

**Description** Detects spatial and temporal groups in GPS relocations (Robitaille et al. (2019) <[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, and perform data-stream randomization methods suitable for GPS data. Also provides measures of intragroup social dynamics including distance and direction to leaders, centroids and nearest neighbours.

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

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

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build\_lines

*Build lines*

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### Description

build\_lines generates a simple feature collection with LINESTRINGs from a data.table. The function expects a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers, a sorting column and a crs. 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,
  crs = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  sortBy = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  projection = NULL
)

```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if <code>coords</code> are provided, see details under Interface
id	character string of ID column name
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y 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 output will be calculated
projection	(deprecated) use <code>crs</code> argument instead

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

Please note, `spatsoc` has followed updates from R spatial, GDAL and PROJ for handling coordinate reference systems, 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 `crs` argument expects a numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system. For example, for UTM zone 36N (EPSG 32736), the `crs` argument is either `crs = 'EPSG:32736'` or `crs = 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 `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, crs = utm, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  sortBy = 'datetime')

# Build lines for each individual by year
DT[, yr := year(datetime)]
lines <- build_lines(DT, crs = 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 expects a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers, a crs, 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,
  crs = NULL,
  hrType = NULL,
  hrParams = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  spPts = NULL,
  projection = NULL
)

```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <a href="#">sf::st_crs</a> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> .
hrType	type of HR estimation, either 'mcp' or 'kernel'
hrParams	a named list of parameters for <code>adehabitatHR</code> functions
id	character string of ID column name
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the output will be calculated
spPts	alternatively, provide solely a <code>SpatialPointsDataFrame</code> with one column representing the ID of each point, as specified by <a href="#">adehabitatHR::mcp</a> or <a href="#">adehabitatHR::kernelUD</a>
projection	(deprecated) use crs argument instead

**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 coordinate reference systems, 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 `crs` 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 `crs` argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 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, crs = 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, crs = utm, hrType = 'mcp',
            hrParams = list(percent = 95),
```

```
id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'), splitBy = 'yr')
```

---

 centroid\_dyad

*Dyad centroid*


---

## Description

centroid\_dyad calculates the centroid (mean location) of a dyad in each observation identified by edge\_nn or edge\_dist. The function expects an edge-list generated by edge\_nn or edge\_dist and a data.table with relocation data appended with a timegroup column from group\_times. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function [get\\_geometry\(\)](#).

## Usage

```
centroid_dyad(
  edges = NULL,
  DT = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  crs = NULL,
  timegroup = "timegroup",
  geometry = "geometry"
)
```

## Arguments

edges	edge-list generated generated by edge_dist or edge_nn, with dyad ID column generated by dyad_id
DT	input data.table with timegroup column generated with group_times matching the input data.table used to generate the edge list with edge_nn or edge_dist
id	character string of ID column name
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <a href="#">sf::st_crs</a> . For example, either crs = "EPSG:32736" or crs = 32736. Used only if coords are provided, see details under Interface
timegroup	character string of timegroup column name, default "timegroup"
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <a href="#">get_geometry()</a> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface

## Details

The edges and DT must be `data.tables`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

The edges and DT are internally merged in this function using the columns `id`, `dyadID` and `timegroup`. This function expects a `dyadID` present, generated with the `dyad_id` function. The `id` and `timegroup` arguments expect the names of a column in DT which correspond to the `id` and `timegroup` columns.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Centroid function" for details on the underlying centroid function used.

## Value

`centroid_dyad` returns the input edges appended with centroid column(s) for each timestep and dyad id.

If coords are provided, the centroid columns will be named by prefixing the coordinate column names with "centroid\_" (eg. "X" = "centroid\_X"). If `geometry` is used, the centroid column will be named "centroid".

Note: due to the merge required within this function, the output needs to be reassigned unlike some other `spatsoc` functions like `dyad_id` and `group_pts`. See details in [FAQ](#).

A message is returned when the centroid column(s) already exist in the input because they will be overwritten.

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide `coords` and optionally `crs`. The `coords` argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The `crs` 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 `crs` argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes. For centroid calculations, if `crs` is NULL, it will be internally set to `NA_crs_`.
2. (New!) Provide `geometry`. The `geometry` argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the `coords` and `crs` arguments NULL, and the default argument for `geometry` ('`geometry`') will be used directly.

## Centroid function

The underlying centroid function used depends on the `crs` of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the `crs` is longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`) and `sf::sf_use_s2()` is TRUE, the distance function is `sf::st_centroid()` which passes to `s2::s2_centroid()`.
- If the `crs` is longlat degrees but `sf::sf_use_s2()` is FALSE, the centroid calculated will be incorrect. See `sf::st_centroid()`.
- If the `crs` is not longlat degrees (eg. NULL, `NA_crs_`, or projected), the centroid function used is `mean`.

Note: if the input is length 1, the input is returned.

### See Also

[dyad\\_id](#) [edge\\_dist](#) [edge\\_nn](#) [group\\_pts](#)

Other Centroid functions: [centroid\\_fusion\(\)](#), [centroid\\_group\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [distance\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#)

### 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 = FALSE
)

# Generate dyad id
dyad_id(edges, id1 = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')

# Calculate dyad centroid
centroids <- centroid_dyad(
  edges,
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  timegroup = 'timegroup'
)

print(centroids)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
edges <- edge_dist(DT, threshold = 100, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
dyad_id(edges, id = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')
centroids <- centroid_dyad(
```

```

edges,
DT,
id = 'ID',
timegroup = 'timegroup'
)
print(centroids)

```

---

centroid\_fusion      *Fusion centroid*

---

### Description

centroid\_fusion calculates the centroid of each timestep in fusion events. The function expects an edge-list of fusion events identified by `fusion_id()` from edge-lists generated with `edge_dist()` and a `data.table` with relocation data appended with a `timegroup` column from `group_times()`. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`.

### Usage

```

centroid_fusion(
  edges = NULL,
  DT = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  crs = NULL,
  timegroup = "timegroup",
  geometry = "geometry"
)

```

### Arguments

edges	edge-list generated generated by <code>edge_dist()</code> or <code>edge_nn()</code> , with fusionID column generated by <code>fusion_id()</code>
DT	input <code>data.table</code> with <code>timegroup</code> column generated with <code>group_times()</code> matching the input <code>data.table</code> used to generate the edge list with <code>edge_nn()</code> or <code>edge_dist()</code>
id	character string of ID column name
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if <code>coords</code> are provided, see details under Interface
timegroup	<code>timegroup</code> field in the DT within which the output will be calculated
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <code>get_geometry()</code> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface

## Details

The edges and DT must be `data.tables`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

The edges and DT are internally merged in this function using the columns `timegroup` (from `group_times()`) and `ID1` and `ID2` (in edges, from `dyad_id`) and `id` (in DT). This function expects a `fusionID` present, generated with the `fusion_id()` function. The `timegroup` argument expects the names of a column in edges which correspond to the `timegroup` column. The `id` and `timegroup` arguments expect the names of columns in DT which correspond to the `id`, and `timegroup` columns.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Centroid function" for details on the underlying centroid function used.

## Value

`centroid_fusion` returns the input edges appended with centroid column(s) for each timestep and fusion id.

If coords are provided, the centroid columns will be named by prefixing the coordinate column names with "centroid\_" (eg. "X" = "centroid\_X"). If geometry is used, the centroid column will be named "centroid".

Note: due to the merge required within this function, the output needs to be reassigned unlike some other spatsock functions like `dyad_id` and `group_pts`. See details in [FAQ](#).

A message is returned when the centroid column(s) already exist in the input because they will be overwritten.

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide `coords` and optionally `crs`. The `coords` argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The `crs` 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 `crs` argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes. For centroid calculations, if `crs` is NULL, it will be internally set to `NA_crs_`.
2. (New!) Provide `geometry`. The `geometry` argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the `coords` and `crs` arguments NULL, and the default argument for `geometry` ('geometry') will be used directly.

## Centroid function

The underlying centroid function used depends on the `crs` of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the `crs` is longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`) and `sf::sf_use_s2()` is TRUE, the distance function is `sf::st_centroid()` which passes to `s2::s2_centroid()`.
- If the `crs` is longlat degrees but `sf::sf_use_s2()` is FALSE, the centroid calculated will be incorrect. See `sf::st_centroid()`.

- If the crs is not longlat degrees (eg. NULL, NA\_crs\_, or projected), the centroid function used is mean.

Note: if the input is length 1, the input is returned.

### See Also

[fusion\\_id](#) [edge\\_dist](#) [group\\_pts](#)

Other Centroid functions: [centroid\\_dyad\(\)](#), [centroid\\_group\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [distance\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#)

### 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 = FALSE
)

# Generate dyad id
dyad_id(edges, id1 = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')

# Generate fusion id
fusion_id(edges, threshold = 100)

# Calculate fusion centroid
centroids <- centroid_fusion(
  edges,
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  timegroup = 'timegroup'
)

print(centroids)
```

```
# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
edges <- edge_dist(DT, threshold = 100, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup', returnDist = TRUE)
dyad_id(edges, id = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')
fusion_id(edges, threshold = 100)
centroids <- centroid_fusion(
  edges,
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
  timegroup = 'timegroup'
)
print(centroids)
```

---

centroid_group	<i>Group centroid</i>
----------------	-----------------------

---

## Description

centroid\_group calculates the centroid of all individuals in each spatiotemporal group identified by group\_pts. The function expects a data.table with relocation data appended with a group column from group\_pts. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function [get\\_geometry\(\)](#).

## Usage

```
centroid_group(
  DT = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  crs = NULL,
  group = "group",
  geometry = "geometry"
)
```

## Arguments

DT	input data.table with group column generated with group_pts
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <a href="#">sf::st_crs</a> . For example, either crs = "EPSG:32736" or crs = 32736. Used only if coords are provided, see details under Interface
group	Character string of group column
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <a href="#">get_geometry()</a> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface

## 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()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

The `group` argument expects the name of a column in DT which correspond to the `group` column.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Centroid function" for details on the underlying centroid function used.

## Value

`centroid_group` returns the input DT appended with centroid column(s) for each group.

If the `crs` for `coords` or `st_crs(geometry)` for `geometry` is long lat (see `sf::st_is_longlat()`), centroids will be calculated using `s2::s2_centroid()` through `sf::st_centroid()`. If the `crs` for `coords` or `st_crs(geometry)` for `geometry` is projected or NA, the centroids will be calculated using a mean on the coordinates.

If `coords` are provided, the centroid columns will be named by prefixing the coordinate column names with "centroid\_" (eg. "X" = "centroid\_X"). If `geometry` is used, the centroid column will be named "centroid".

A message is returned when the centroid column(s) already exist in the input because they will be overwritten.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide `coords` and optionally `crs`. The `coords` argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The `crs` 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 `crs` argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes. For centroid calculations, if `crs` is NULL, it will be internally set to `NA_crs_`.
2. (New!) Provide `geometry`. The `geometry` argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the `coords` and `crs` arguments NULL, and the default argument for `geometry` ('geometry') will be used directly.

## Centroid function

The underlying centroid function used depends on the `crs` of the coordinates or `geometry` provided.

- If the `crs` is longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`) and `sf::sf_use_s2()` is TRUE, the distance function is `sf::st_centroid()` which passes to `s2::s2_centroid()`.
- If the `crs` is longlat degrees but `sf::sf_use_s2()` is FALSE, the centroid calculated will be incorrect. See `sf::st_centroid()`.
- If the `crs` is not longlat degrees (eg. NULL, `NA_crs_`, or projected), the centroid function used is mean.

Note: if the input is length 1, the input is returned.

### See Also

group\_pts

Other Centroid functions: [centroid\\_dyad\(\)](#), [centroid\\_fusion\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [distance\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#)

### 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')

# Calculate group centroid
centroid_group(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), group = 'group')

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
centroid_group(DT)
```

---

direction_group	<i>Group mean direction</i>
-----------------	-----------------------------

---

### Description

`direction_group` calculates the mean direction of all individuals in each spatiotemporal group identified by `group_pts()`. The function expects a `data.table` with relocation data appended with a direction column from `direction_step()` and a group column from `group_pts()`.

### Usage

```
direction_group(DT, direction = "direction", group = "group")
```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table with direction column generated by <code>direction_step()</code> and group column generated with <code>group_pts()</code>
direction	character string of direction column name, default "direction", expects that the unit of the direction column is radians.
group	character string of group column name, default "group"

**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()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

The direction and group arguments expect the names of columns in DT which correspond to the direction and group columns. The direction column is expected in units of radians and the mean calculated with `CircStats::circ.mean()`.

**Value**

direction\_group returns the input DT appended with a group\_direction column representing the mean direction of all individuals in each spatiotemporal group.

The mean direction is calculated using `CircStats::circ.mean()` which expects units of radians.

A message is returned when the group\_direction columns already exists in the input DT, because it will be overwritten.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

**References**

See examples of using mean group direction:

- [doi:10.1098/rsos.170148](https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.170148)
- [doi:10.1098/rsos.201128](https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.201128)
- [doi:10.1016/j.beproc.2018.01.013](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2018.01.013)

**See Also**

`direction_step()`, `group_pts()`, `CircStats::circ.mean()`

Other Direction functions: `direction_polarization()`, `direction_step()`, `direction_to_centroid()`, `direction_to_leader()`, `edge_alignment()`, `edge_delay()`, `edge_direction()`, `edge_zones()`, `leader_direction_group()`, `leader_edge_delay()`

**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 = 50, id = 'ID',
          coords = c('X', 'Y'), timegroup = 'timegroup')

# Calculate direction at each step
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
)

# Calculate group direction
direction_group(DT)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
direction_step(DT, id = 'ID')
direction_group(DT)

```

---

direction\_polarization

*Polarization*

---

## Description

`direction_polarization` calculates the polarization of individual directions in each spatiotemporal group identified by `group_pts`. The function expects a `data.table` with relocation data appended with a direction column from `direction_step` and a group column from `group_pts`.

## Usage

```
direction_polarization(DT, direction = "direction", group = "group")
```

## Arguments

<code>DT</code>	input <code>data.table</code> with direction column generated by <code>direction_step()</code> and group column generated with <code>group_pts()</code>
<code>direction</code>	character string of direction column name, default "direction", expects that the unit of the direction column is radians.
<code>group</code>	character string of group column name, default "group"

## 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()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

The `direction` and `group` arguments expect the names of columns in DT which correspond to the `direction` and `group` columns. The `direction` column is expected in units of radians and the polarization is calculated with `CircStats::r.test()`.

## Value

`direction_polarization` returns the input DT appended with a polarization column representing the direction polarization of all individuals in each spatiotemporal group.

The direction polarization is calculated using `CircStats::r.test()` which expects units of radians.

A message is returned when the polarization columns already exists in the input DT, because it will be overwritten.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

## References

See examples of using polarization:

- [doi:10.1016/j.cub.2017.08.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2017.08.004)
- [doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1009437](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1009437)
- [doi:10.7554/eLife.19505](https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.19505)

## See Also

`direction_step`, `group_pts`, `CircStats::r.test()`

Other Direction functions: `direction_group()`, `direction_step()`, `direction_to_centroid()`, `direction_to_leader()`, `edge_alignment()`, `edge_delay()`, `edge_direction()`, `edge_zones()`, `leader_direction_group()`, `leader_edge_delay()`

## 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 = 50, id = 'ID',
          coords = c('X', 'Y'), timegroup = 'timegroup')

# Calculate direction at each step
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
)

# Calculate polarization
direction_polarization(DT)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
direction_step(DT, id = 'ID')
direction_polarization(DT)

```

---

direction_step	<i>Direction step</i>
----------------	-----------------------

---

## Description

`direction_step` calculates the direction of movement steps in radians. The function expects a `data.table` with relocation data and individual identifiers. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`. Note the order of rows is not modified by this function and therefore users must be cautious to set it explicitly. See example for one approach to setting order of rows using a datetime field.

## Usage

```

direction_step(
  DT = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  crs = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  geometry = "geometry",
  projection = NULL
)

```

## 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. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <a href="#">sf::st_crs</a> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if coords are provided, see details under Interface
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the output will be calculated
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <a href="#">get_geometry()</a> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface
projection	(deprecated) use crs argument instead

### 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\(\)](#) or by reassigning using [data.table::data.table\(\)](#).

The `id`, and optional `splitBy` arguments expect the names of a column in DT which correspond to the individual identifier and additional grouping columns.

The `splitBy` argument offers further control over grouping. If within your DT, you have distinct sampling periods for each individual, you can provide the column name(s) which identify them to `splitBy`. The direction calculation by [direction\\_step\(\)](#) will only consider rows within each `id` and `splitBy` subgroup.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Direction function" for details on the underlying direction function used.

### Value

`direction_step` returns the input DT appended with a direction column with units set to radians using the `units` package.

This column represents the azimuth between the sequence of points for each individual computed using [lwgeom::st\\_geod\\_azimuth\(\)](#). Note, the order of points is not modified by this function and therefore it is crucial the user sets the order of rows to their specific question before using `direction_step`. In addition, the direction column will include an NA value for the last point in each sequence of points since there is no future point to calculate a direction to.

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

An error is returned if there are any missing values in coordinates / geometry as the underlying direction function ([lwgeom::st\\_geod\\_azimuth\(\)](#)) does not accept missing values.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

### Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide `coords` and `crs`. The `coords` argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The `crs` 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 crs argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.

2. (New!) Provide geometry. The geometry argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the `coords` and `crs` arguments NULL, and the default argument for `geometry` ('geometry') will be used directly.

### Direction function

The underlying distance function used depends on the crs of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the crs is provided and longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`), the distance function is `lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`.
- If the crs is provided and not longlat degrees (eg. a projected UTM), the coordinates or geometry are transformed to `sf::st_crs(4326)` before the distance is measured using `lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`.
- If the crs is NULL or `NA_crs_`, the distance function cannot be used and an error is returned.

### See Also

`lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`, `amt::direction_abs()`, `geosphere::bearing()`

Other Direction functions: `direction_group()`, `direction_polarization()`, `direction_to_centroid()`, `direction_to_leader()`, `edge_alignment()`, `edge_delay()`, `edge_direction()`, `edge_zones()`, `leader_direction_group()`, `leader_edge_delay()`

### 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')]

# Set order using data.table::setorder
setorder(DT, datetime)

# Calculate direction
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
)

# Or: geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
```

```

direction_step(DT, id = 'ID')

# Example result for East, North, West, South steps
example <- data.table(
  X = c(0, 5, 5, 0, 0),
  Y = c(0, 0, 5, 5, 0),
  step = c('E', 'N', 'W', 'S', NA),
  ID = 'A'
)

direction_step(example, 'ID', c('X', 'Y'), crs = 4326)
example[, .(step, direction, units::set_units(direction, 'degree'))]

```

---

direction\_to\_centroid *Direction to group centroid*

---

## Description

`direction_to_centroid` calculates the direction of each relocation to the centroid of the spatiotemporal group identified by `group_pts()`. The function expects a `data.table` with relocation data appended with a group column from `group_pts()` and centroid columns from `centroid_group()`. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`.

## Usage

```

direction_to_centroid(
  DT = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  crs = NULL,
  geometry = "geometry"
)

```

## Arguments

DT	input <code>data.table</code>
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if <code>coords</code> are provided, see details under Interface
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <code>get_geometry()</code> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface

## 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()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

This function expects a group column present generated with the `group_pts()` function and centroid coordinates generated with the `centroid_group()` function. The group argument expects the name of the column in DT which correspond to the group column.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Direction function" for details on the underlying direction function used.

## Value

`direction_to_centroid` returns the input DT appended with a `direction_centroid` column indicating the direction to the group centroid in radians. A value of NaN is returned when the coordinates of the focal individual equal the coordinates of the centroid.

A message is returned when `direction_centroid` column already exist in the input DT, because they will be overwritten.

Missing values in coordinates / geometry are ignored and NA is returned.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide `coords` and `crs`. The `coords` argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The `crs` 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 `crs` argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.
2. (New!) Provide `geometry`. The `geometry` argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the `coords` and `crs` arguments NULL, and the default argument for `geometry` ('`geometry`') will be used directly.

## Direction function

The underlying distance function used depends on the `crs` of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the `crs` is provided and `longlat` degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`), the distance function is `lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`.
- If the `crs` is provided and not `longlat` degrees (eg. a projected UTM), the coordinates or geometry are transformed to `sf::st_crs(4326)` before the distance is measured using `lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`.
- If the `crs` is NULL or `NA_crs_`, the distance function cannot be used and an error is returned.

## References

See example of using direction to group centroid:

- [doi:10.1016/j.cub.2017.08.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2017.08.004)

**See Also**

[centroid\\_group](#), [group\\_pts](#), [lwgeom::st\\_geod\\_azimuth\(\)](#)

Other Direction functions: [direction\\_group\(\)](#), [direction\\_polarization\(\)](#), [direction\\_step\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_leader\(\)](#), [edge\\_alignment\(\)](#), [edge\\_delay\(\)](#), [edge\\_direction\(\)](#), [edge\\_zones\(\)](#), [leader\\_direction\\_group\(\)](#), [leader\\_edge\\_delay\(\)](#)

Other Centroid functions: [centroid\\_dyad\(\)](#), [centroid\\_fusion\(\)](#), [centroid\\_group\(\)](#), [distance\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#)

**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')

# Calculate group centroid
centroid_group(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), group = 'group')

# Calculate direction to group centroid
direction_to_centroid(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
centroid_group(DT)
direction_to_centroid(DT)
```

---

direction\_to\_leader     *Direction to group leader*

---

**Description**

`direction_to_leader` calculates the direction to the leader of each spatiotemporal group. The function expects a `data.table` with relocation data appended with a `rank_position_group_direction` column indicating the ranked position along the group direction generated with `leader_direction_group(return_rank = TRUE)`. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`.

**Usage**

```
direction_to_leader(
  DT = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  group = "group",
  crs = NULL,
  geometry = "geometry"
)
```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
group	group column name, generated by group_pts, default 'group'
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <a href="#">sf::st_crs</a> . For example, either crs = "EPSG:32736" or crs = 32736. Used only if coords are provided, see details under Interface
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <a href="#">get_geometry()</a> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface

**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\(\)](#) or by reassigning using [data.table::data.table\(\)](#).

This function expects a rank\_position\_group\_direction column generated with leader\_direction\_group(return\_rank = TRUE), a group column generated with the group\_pts function. The group argument expects the name of the column in DT which correspond to the group column.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Direction function" for details on the underlying direction function used.

**Value**

direction\_to\_leader returns the input DT appended with a direction\_leader column indicating the direction to the group leader in radians. A value of NaN is returned when the coordinates of the focal individual equal the coordinates of the leader.

Missing values in coordinates / geometry are ignored and NA is returned.

A message is returned when the direction\_leader column already exist in the input DT because it will be overwritten.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

**Interface**

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide `coords` and `crs`. The `coords` argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The `crs` 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 `crs` argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.
2. (New!) Provide `geometry`. The `geometry` argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the `coords` and `crs` arguments NULL, and the default argument for `geometry` ('`geometry`') will be used directly.

### Direction function

The underlying distance function used depends on the crs of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the `crs` is provided and `longlat` degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`), the distance function is `lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`.
- If the `crs` is provided and not `longlat` degrees (eg. a projected UTM), the coordinates or geometry are transformed to `sf::st_crs(4326)` before the distance is measured using `lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`.
- If the `crs` is NULL or `NA_crs_`, the distance function cannot be used and an error is returned.

### References

See examples of using `direction` to leader and position within group:

- [doi:10.1016/j.anbehav.2023.09.009](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2023.09.009)
- [doi:10.1016/j.beproc.2013.10.007](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2013.10.007)
- [doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0036567](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0036567)

### See Also

`distance_to_leader`, `leader_direction_group`, `group_pts`, `lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`

Other `Direction` functions: `direction_group()`, `direction_polarization()`, `direction_step()`, `direction_to_centroid()`, `edge_alignment()`, `edge_delay()`, `edge_direction()`, `edge_zones()`, `leader_direction_group()`, `leader_edge_delay()`

Other `Leadership` functions: `leader_direction_group()`, `leader_edge_delay()`

### 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 = 50, id = 'ID',
          coords = c('X', 'Y'), timegroup = 'timegroup')

# Calculate direction at each step
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
)

# Calculate group centroid
centroid_group(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'))

# Calculate group direction
direction_group(DT)

# Calculate leader in terms of position along group direction
leader_direction_group(
  DT,
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID'
)
centroid_group(DT)
direction_group(DT)
leader_direction_group(
  DT
)
direction_to_leader(DT)

```

---

distance\_to\_centroid *Distance to group centroid*

---

### Description

`distance_to_centroid` calculates the distance of each relocation to the centroid of the spatiotemporal group identified by `group_pts`. The function expects a `data.table` with relocation data appended with a group column from `group_pts` and centroid columns from `centroid_group`. Relocation data should be provided in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`.

**Usage**

```
distance_to_centroid(
  DT = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  group = "group",
  crs = NULL,
  return_rank = TRUE,
  ties.method = NULL,
  geometry = "geometry"
)
```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table with centroid columns generated by eg. centroid_group
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
group	group column name, generated by group_pts, default 'group'
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <a href="#">sf::st_crs</a> . For example, either crs = "EPSG:32736" or crs = 32736. Used only if coords are provided, see details under Interface
return_rank	logical if rank distance should also be returned, default TRUE
ties.method	see <a href="#">?data.table::frank()</a>
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <a href="#">get_geometry()</a> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface

**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\(\)](#) or by reassigning using [data.table::data.table\(\)](#).

This function expects a group column present generated with the group\_pts function and centroid coordinate column(s) generated with the centroid\_group function. The group arguments expect the names of columns in DT which correspond to the group column. The return\_rank argument controls if the rank of each individual's distance to the group centroid is also returned. The ties.method argument is passed to data.table::frank, see details at [?data.table::frank\(\)](#).

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Distance function" for details on underlying distance function used.

**Value**

distance\_to\_centroid returns the input DT appended with a distance\_centroid column indicating the distance to the group centroid and, optionally, a rank\_distance\_centroid column indicating the within group rank distance to the group centroid (if return\_rank = TRUE).

A message is returned when distance\_centroid and optional rank\_distance\_centroid columns already exist in the input DT, because they will be overwritten.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide coords and crs. The coords argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The crs 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 crs argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.
2. (New!) Provide geometry. The geometry argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the coords and crs arguments NULL, and the default argument for geometry ('geometry') will be used directly.

## Distance function

The underlying distance function used depends on the crs of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the crs is longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`), the distance function is `sf::st_distance()` which passes to `s2::s2_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is TRUE and `lwgeom::st_geod_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is FALSE. The distance returned has units set according to the crs.
- If the crs is not longlat degrees (eg. NULL, NA\_crs\_, or projected), the distance function used is `stats::dist()`, maintaining expected behaviour from previous versions. The distance returned does not have units set.

Note: in both cases, if the coordinates are NA then the result will be NA.

## References

See examples of using distance to group centroid:

- [doi:10.1016/j.anbehav.2021.08.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2021.08.004)
- [doi:10.1111/eth.12336](https://doi.org/10.1111/eth.12336)
- [doi:10.1007/s1336401804002](https://doi.org/10.1007/s1336401804002)

## See Also

`centroid_group`, `group_pts`, `sf::st_distance()`

Other Distance functions: `distance_to_leader()`, `edge_dist()`, `edge_nn()`, `edge_zones()`

Other Centroid functions: `centroid_dyad()`, `centroid_fusion()`, `centroid_group()`, `direction_to_centroid()`

## 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')

# Calculate group centroid
centroid_group(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), group = 'group')

# Calculate distance to group centroid
distance_to_centroid(
  DT,
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  group = 'group',
)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
centroid_group(DT)
direction_to_centroid(DT)

```

---

distance\_to\_leader      *Distance to group leader*

---

## Description

distance\_to\_leader calculates the distance to the leader of each spatiotemporal group. The function expects a `data.table` with relocation data appended with a `rank_position_group_direction` column indicating the ranked position along the group direction generated with `leader_direction_group(return_rank = TRUE)`. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`.

## Usage

```

distance_to_leader(
  DT = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  group = "group",
  crs = NULL,
  geometry = "geometry"
)

```

## Arguments

DT	input data.table with 'rank_position_group_direction' column generated by leader_direction_group and group column generated by group_pts
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
group	group column name, generated by group_pts, default 'group'
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if coords are provided, see details under Interface
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <code>get_geometry()</code> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface

## 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()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

This function expects a rank\_position\_group\_direction column generated with leader\_direction\_group(return\_rank = TRUE), a group column generated with the group\_pts function. The group argument expect the names of the column in DT which corresponds to the group column.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Distance function" for details on underlying distance function used.

## Value

distance\_to\_leader returns the input DT appended with a distance\_leader column indicating the distance to the group leader.

A message is returned when the distance\_leader column already exist in the input DT because it will be overwritten.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide coords and crs. The coords argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The crs 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 crs argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.
2. (New!) Provide geometry. The geometry argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the coords and crs arguments NULL, and the default argument for geometry ('geometry') will be used directly.

## Distance function

The underlying distance function used depends on the crs of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the crs is longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`), the distance function is `sf::st_distance()` which passes to `s2::s2_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is TRUE and `lwgeom::st_geod_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is FALSE. The distance returned has units set according to the crs.
- If the crs is not longlat degrees (eg. NULL, NA\_crs\_, or projected), the distance function used is `stats::dist()`, maintaining expected behaviour from previous versions. The distance returned does not have units set.

Note: in both cases, if the coordinates are NA then the result will be NA.

## References

See examples of using distance to leader and position within group:

- [doi:10.1111/jfb.15315](https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.15315)
- [doi:10.1098/rspb.2017.2629](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2017.2629)
- [doi:10.1016/j.anbehav.2023.09.009](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2023.09.009)

## See Also

[direction\\_to\\_leader](#), [leader\\_direction\\_group](#), [group\\_pts](#), [sf::st\\_distance\(\)](#)

Other Distance functions: [distance\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [edge\\_dist\(\)](#), [edge\\_nn\(\)](#), [edge\\_zones\(\)](#)

## 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 = 50, id = 'ID',
          coords = c('X', 'Y'), timegroup = 'timegroup')

# Calculate direction at each step
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
```

```

)

# Calculate group centroid
centroid_group(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'))

# Calculate group direction
direction_group(DT)

# Calculate leader in terms of position along group direction
leader_direction_group(
  DT,
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736,
  return_rank = TRUE
)

# Calculate distance to leader
distance_to_leader(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID'
)
centroid_group(DT)
direction_group(DT)
leader_direction_group(
  DT
)
distance_to_leader(DT)

```

---

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 <code>edge_dist</code> or <code>edge_nn</code>
id1	ID1 column name generated by <code>edge_dist</code> or <code>edge_nn</code>
id2	ID2 column name generated by <code>edge_dist</code> or <code>edge_nn</code>

**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.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

**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')

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
edges <- edge_dist(DT, threshold = 100, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
dyad_id(edges, id = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')

```

---

edge\_alignment

*Directional alignment based edge-lists*


---

## Description

edge\_alignment returns edge-lists defined by directional alignment (difference in movement direction) between individuals. The function expects a data.table with relocation data and individual identifiers, a direction column (generated by direction\_step) and timegroup column (generated by group\_times).

## Usage

```

edge_alignment(
  DT = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  direction = "direction",
  timegroup = "timegroup",
  group = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  signed = FALSE
)

```

## Arguments

DT	input data.table
id	character string of ID column name

direction	character string of direction column name, default "direction", expects that the unit of the direction column is radians.
timegroup	character string of timegroup column name, default "timegroup"
group	(optional) character string of group column name, used to restrict the calculation of directional alignment to within spatiotemporal groups
splitBy	(optional) vector of column names indicating subgroups within which the direction alignment will be calculated
signed	logical if signed difference should be returned, default FALSE

### 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`, `direction`, `timegroup`, and optional `group` and `splitBy` arguments expect the names of a column in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, direction (generated by `direction_step`), timegroup (generated by `group_times`), group (generated by `group_pts`) and additional grouping columns.

There are two approaches to spatially restricting the calculation of directional alignment. The `group` argument can be used to pass the output group column from `group_pts` to calculate direction alignment within spatiotemporal groups. Alternatively, the output of `edge_alignment` can be merged with the output of `edge_dist` to compare the difference in direction to the distance between individuals.

The `splitBy` argument offers further control over the calculation of directional alignment. 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_alignment` will only consider rows within each `splitBy` subgroup.

### Value

`edge_alignment` returns a `data.table` with columns `ID1`, `ID2`, `timegroup`, and a 'direction\_diff' column indicating the difference in direction between `ID1` and `ID2` in radians, along with any columns provided in `splitBy`.

Note: unlike many other functions (eg. `group_pts`) in `spatsoc`, `edge_alignment` needs to be reassigned. See details in [FAQ](#).

### References

See examples of using directional alignment:

- [doi:10.1098/rsif.2013.0529](https://doi.org/10.1098/rsif.2013.0529)
- [doi:10.1016/j.beproc.2021.104473](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2021.104473)
- [doi:10.1126/science.aaa5099](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aaa5099)

**See Also**

Other Edge-list generation: [edge\\_delay\(\)](#), [edge\\_direction\(\)](#), [edge\\_dist\(\)](#), [edge\\_nn\(\)](#)

Other Direction functions: [direction\\_group\(\)](#), [direction\\_polarization\(\)](#), [direction\\_step\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_leader\(\)](#), [edge\\_delay\(\)](#), [edge\\_direction\(\)](#), [edge\\_zones\(\)](#), [leader\\_direction\\_group\(\)](#), [leader\\_edge\\_delay\(\)](#)

**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')

# Calculate direction
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
)

# Calculate directional alignment edge-list
align <- edge_alignment(
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
  signed = FALSE
)

# Or, calculate directional alignment within spatiotemporal groups
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID',
           coords = c('X', 'Y'), timegroup = 'timegroup')

align_group <- edge_alignment(
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
  group = 'group',
  signed = FALSE
)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
group_pts(DT, threshold = 5, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')
direction_step(DT, id = 'ID')
```

```
align_group <- edge_alignment(
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
  group = 'group',
  signed = FALSE
)
```

---

edge\_delay

*Directional correlation delay based edge-lists*


---

### Description

edge\_delay returns edge-lists defined by the directional correlation delay between individuals. The function expects a distance based edge-list generated by edge\_dist or edge\_nn, a data.table with relocation data, individual identifiers and a window argument. The window argument is used to specify the temporal window within which to measure the directional correlation delay. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates.

### Usage

```
edge_delay(edges, DT, window = NULL, id = NULL, direction = "direction")
```

### Arguments

edges	edge-list generated generated by <a href="#">edge_dist()</a> or <a href="#">edge_nn()</a> , with fusionID column generated by <a href="#">fusion_id()</a>
DT	input data.table with timegroup column generated with <a href="#">group_times()</a> matching the input data.table used to generate the edge list with <a href="#">edge_nn()</a> or <a href="#">edge_dist()</a>
window	temporal window in unit of timegroup column generated with <a href="#">group_times</a> , eg. window = 4 corresponds to the 4 timegroups before and after the focal observation
id	character string of ID column name
direction	character string of direction column name, default "direction", expects that the unit of the direction column is radians.

### Details

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

The edges argument expects a distance based edge-list generated with edge\_nn or edge\_dist. The DT argument expects relocation data with a timegroup column generated with group\_times.

The rows in edges and DT are internally matched in edge\_delay using the columns timegroup (from group\_times) and ID1 and ID2 (in edges, from dyad\_id) with id (in DT). This function expects a fusionID present, generated with the fusion\_id function, and a dyadID present, generated with the dyad\_id function. The id, and direction arguments expect the names of a column in DT which correspond to the id, and direction columns.

**Value**

edge\_delay returns the input edges appended with a 'direction\_delay' column indicating the temporal delay (in units of timegroups) at which ID1's direction of movement is most similar to ID2's direction of movement, within the temporal window defined, and a 'direction\_diff' column indicating the absolute difference in direction. For example, if focal individual 'A' moves in a 45 degree direction at time 2 and individual 'B' moves in a most similar direction within the window at time 5, the directional correlation delay between A and B is 3. Positive values of directional correlation delay indicate a directed leadership edge from ID1 to ID2.

Note: due to the merge required within this function, the output needs to be reassigned unlike some other spatsoc functions like dyad\_id. See details in [FAQ](#).

**References**

The directional correlation delay is defined in Nagy et al. 2010 ([doi:10.1038/nature08891](https://doi.org/10.1038/nature08891)).

See examples of measuring the directional correlation delay:

- [doi:10.1016/j.anbehav.2013.07.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2013.07.005)
- [doi:10.1073/pnas.1305552110](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1305552110)
- [doi:10.1111/jfb.15315](https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.15315)
- [doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1003446](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1003446)

**See Also**

Other Edge-list generation: [edge\\_alignment\(\)](#), [edge\\_direction\(\)](#), [edge\\_dist\(\)](#), [edge\\_nn\(\)](#)

Other Direction functions: [direction\\_group\(\)](#), [direction\\_polarization\(\)](#), [direction\\_step\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_leader\(\)](#), [edge\\_alignment\(\)](#), [edge\\_direction\(\)](#), [edge\\_zones\(\)](#), [leader\\_direction\\_group\(\)](#), [leader\\_edge\\_delay\(\)](#)

**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')

# Calculate direction
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
```

```

    id = 'ID',
    coords = c('X', 'Y'),
    crs = 32736
  )

  # Distance based edge-list generation
  edges <- edge_dist(
    DT,
    threshold = 100,
    id = 'ID',
    coords = c('X', 'Y'),
    timegroup = 'timegroup',
    returnDist = TRUE,
    fillNA = FALSE
  )

  # Generate dyad id
  dyad_id(edges, id1 = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')

  # Generate fusion id
  fusion_id(edges, threshold = 100)

  # Directional correlation delay
  delay <- edge_delay(
    edges = edges,
    DT = DT,
    window = 3,
    id = 'ID'
  )

  delay[, mean(direction_delay, na.rm = TRUE), by = .(ID1, ID2)][V1 > 0]

  # Or, using the new geometry interface
  get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
  direction_step(DT, id = 'ID')
  edges <- edge_dist(DT, threshold = 100, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup', returnDist = TRUE)
  dyad_id(edges, id = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')
  fusion_id(edges, threshold = 100)
  delay <- edge_delay(
    edges = edges,
    DT = DT,
    window = 3,
    id = 'ID'
  )

```

---

edge\_direction

*Direction based edge-lists*


---

### Description

`edge_direction()` returns edge lists defined by the direction between individuals. The function

expects a distance based edge-list generated by `edge_nn` or `edge_dist()` and a `data.table` with relocation data appended with a `timegroup` column from `group_times()`. It is required to use the argument `fillNA = FALSE` for `edge_dist()` to ensure there are no NAs in the coordinate columns. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`.

### Usage

```
edge_direction(
  edges = NULL,
  DT = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  crs = NULL,
  timegroup = "timegroup",
  geometry = "geometry",
  projection = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

<code>edges</code>	edge-list generated generated by <code>edge_dist</code> or <code>edge_nn</code> , with dyad ID column generated by <code>dyad_id</code>
<code>DT</code>	input <code>data.table</code> with <code>timegroup</code> column generated with <code>group_times</code> matching the input <code>data.table</code> used to generate the edge list with <code>edge_nn</code> or <code>edge_dist</code>
<code>id</code>	character string of ID column name
<code>coords</code>	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
<code>crs</code>	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if <code>coords</code> are provided, see details under Interface
<code>timegroup</code>	character string of <code>timegroup</code> column name, default "timegroup"
<code>geometry</code>	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <code>get_geometry()</code> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface
<code>projection</code>	(deprecated) use <code>crs</code> argument instead

### Details

The `edges` and `DT` must be `data.tables`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

The `edges` and `DT` are internally merged in this function using the columns `id` / `ID1` and `ID2`, `timegroup`. The `id`, and `timegroup` arguments expect the names of columns which correspond to the `ID`, and `timegroup` columns in `DT`.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Direction function" for details on the underlying direction function used.

## Value

`edge_direction()` returns the input edges appended with a "direction\_dyad" column representing the direction between ID1 and ID2 in radians. A value of NaN is returned when the coordinates of ID1 equal the coordinates of ID2.

If the "direction" column is found in input DT, it will be retained for ID1 in the output for use in downstream functions (eg. `edge_zones()`).

Missing values in coordinates / geometry are ignored and NA is returned.

Note: due to the merge required within this function, the output needs to be reassigned unlike some other spatsoc functions like `dyad_id()` and `group_pts()`. See details in [FAQ](#).

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide coords and crs. The coords argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The crs 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 crs argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.
2. (New!) Provide geometry. The geometry argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the coords and crs arguments NULL, and the default argument for geometry ('geometry') will be used directly.

## Direction function

The underlying distance function used depends on the crs of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the crs is provided and longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`), the distance function is `lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`.
- If the crs is provided and not longlat degrees (eg. a projected UTM), the coordinates or geometry are transformed to `sf::st_crs(4326)` before the distance is measured using `lwgeom::st_geod_azimuth()`.
- If the crs is NULL or NA\_crs\_, the distance function cannot be used and an error is returned.

## References

See examples of measuring the direction between individuals:

- [doi:10.1098/rsif.2013.0529](https://doi.org/10.1098/rsif.2013.0529)
- [doi:10.1098/rstb.2019.0380](https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2019.0380)
- [doi:10.1111/jfb.15315](https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.15315)

**See Also**

[dyad\\_id](#), [edge\\_dist](#), [edge\\_nn](#), [group\\_times](#), [lwgeom::st\\_geod\\_azimuth\(\)](#)

Other Edge-list generation: [edge\\_alignment\(\)](#), [edge\\_delay\(\)](#), [edge\\_dist\(\)](#), [edge\\_nn\(\)](#)

Other Direction functions: [direction\\_group\(\)](#), [direction\\_polarization\(\)](#), [direction\\_step\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_leader\(\)](#), [edge\\_alignment\(\)](#), [edge\\_delay\(\)](#), [edge\\_zones\(\)](#), [leader\\_direction\\_group\(\)](#), [leader\\_edge\\_delay\(\)](#)

**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 = FALSE
)

# Direction based edge-lists
dyad_directions <- edge_direction(
  edges,
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736,
  timegroup = 'timegroup'
)

print(dyad_directions)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
dyad_directions <- edge_direction(
  edges,
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
```

```

    timegroup = 'timegroup'
  )

```

---

edge\_dist

*Distance based edge-lists*


---

## Description

edge\_dist returns edge-lists defined by a spatial distance within the user defined threshold. The function expects 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, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`.

## Usage

```

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

```

## Arguments

DT	input <code>data.table</code>
threshold	distance for grouping points, either numeric or units, in the units of the crs / the coordinates or geometry
id	character string of ID column name
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
timegroup	timegroup field in the DT within which the output will be calculated
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if coords are provided, see details under Interface
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the output will be calculated
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <code>get_geometry()</code> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface

returnDist	logical indicating if the distance between individuals should be returned. If FALSE (default), only individual columns (and timegroup, splitBy columns if provided) are returned. If TRUE, a column "distance" is also returned indicating the distance between individuals in the units of the crs, or if crs = NULL no units are set.
fillNA	logical 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`, `timegroup` (and optional `splitBy`) arguments expect the names of columns in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, and `timegroup` (generated by `group_times`) and additional grouping columns.

The `threshold` provided should match the units of the coordinates. The `threshold` can be provided with units specified using the `units` package (eg. `threshold = units::set_units(10, m)`) which will be checked against the units of the coordinates using the `crs`. If units are not specified, the `threshold` is assumed to be in the units of the coordinates.

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.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Distance function" for details on underlying distance function used.

## 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.

Note: unlike many other functions (eg. `group_pts`) in `spatsoc`, `edge_dist` needs to be reassigned. See details in [FAQ](#).

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide `coords` and `crs`. The `coords` argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The `crs` 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 `crs` argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.
2. (New!) Provide `geometry`. The `geometry` argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the `coords` and `crs` arguments NULL, and the default argument for `geometry` ('`geometry`') will be used directly.

### Distance function

The underlying distance function used depends on the crs of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the crs is longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`), the distance function is `sf::st_distance()` which passes to `s2::s2_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is TRUE and `lwgeom::st_geod_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is FALSE. The distance returned has units set according to the crs.
- If the crs is not longlat degrees (eg. NULL, NA\_crs\_, or projected), the distance function used is `stats::dist()`, maintaining expected behaviour from previous versions. The distance returned does not have units set.

Note: in both cases, if the coordinates are NA then the result will be NA.

### See Also

[sf::st\\_distance\(\)](#)

Other Edge-list generation: [edge\\_alignment\(\)](#), [edge\\_delay\(\)](#), [edge\\_direction\(\)](#), [edge\\_nn\(\)](#)

Other Distance functions: [distance\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [distance\\_to\\_leader\(\)](#), [edge\\_nn\(\)](#), [edge\\_zones\(\)](#)

### 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',
    crs = 32736,
    returnDist = TRUE,
    fillNA = TRUE
  )

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
edge_dist(DT, threshold = 100, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup', returnDist = TRUE)

```

---

edge\_nn

*Nearest neighbour based edge-lists*


---

### Description

edge\_nn returns edge-lists defined by the nearest neighbour. The function expects 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, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`.

### Usage

```

edge_nn(
  DT = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  timegroup,
  crs = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  threshold = NULL,
  geometry = "geometry",
  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. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
timegroup	timegroup field in the DT within which the output will be calculated
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if <code>coords</code> are provided, see details under Interface

splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the output will be calculated
threshold	(optional) spatial distance threshold to set maximum distance between an individual and their neighbour.
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <code>get_geometry()</code> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface
returnDist	logical indicating if the distance between individuals should be returned. If FALSE (default), only individual columns (and timegroup, splitBy columns if provided) are returned. If TRUE, a column "distance" is also returned indicating the distance between individuals in the units of the crs, or if crs = NULL no units are set.

### 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`, `timegroup` (and optional `splitBy`) arguments expect the names of columns in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, and `timegroup` (generated by `group_times`) and additional grouping columns.

If a `threshold` is provided, it should match the units of the coordinates. The `threshold` can be provided with units specified using the `units` package (eg. `threshold = units::set_units(10, m)`) which will be checked against the units of the coordinates using the `crs`. If units are not specified, the `threshold` is assumed to be in the units of the coordinates.

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.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Distance function" for details on underlying distance function used.

### Value

`edge_nn` returns a `data.table` with three columns: `timegroup`, `ID` and `NN`. If `'returnDist'` is TRUE, a 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.

Note: unlike many other functions (eg. `group_pts`) in `spatsoc`, `edge_nn` needs to be reassigned. See details in [FAQ](#).

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide `coords` and `crs`. The `coords` argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The `crs` 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 `crs` argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.
2. (New!) Provide `geometry`. The `geometry` argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the `coords` and `crs` arguments NULL, and the default argument for `geometry` ('`geometry`') will be used directly.

## Distance function

The underlying distance function used depends on the crs of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the `crs` is longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`), the distance function is `sf::st_distance()` which passes to `s2::s2_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is TRUE and `lwgeom::st_geod_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is FALSE. The distance returned has units set according to the crs.
- If the `crs` is not longlat degrees (eg. NULL, NA\_crs\_, or projected), the distance function used is `stats::dist()`, maintaining expected behaviour from previous versions. The distance returned does not have units set.

Note: in both cases, if the coordinates are NA then the result will be NA.

## See Also

Other Edge-list generation: `edge_alignment()`, `edge_delay()`, `edge_direction()`, `edge_dist()`

Other Distance functions: `distance_to_centroid()`, `distance_to_leader()`, `edge_dist()`, `edge_zones()`

## 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)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
edge_nn(DT, threshold = 100, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup', returnDist = TRUE)

```

---

edge\_zones

*Behavioural zones*


---

## Description

edge\_zones returns edge-lists defined by behavioural zones (Couzin 2002). The function expects a distance based edge-list generated by edge\_dist (optionally with directions measured by direction\_step and edge\_direction), zone thresholds, labels and (optionally) a blind volume.

## Usage

```

edge_zones(
  edges = NULL,
  zone_thresholds = NULL,
  zone_labels = NULL,
  blind_volume = NULL
)

```

## Arguments

edges	distance based edge-list generated by edge_dist, optionally with direction columns from direction_step and edge_direction (see Details)
zone_thresholds	upper thresholds to define behavioural zones, eg. c(10, 20, 30) defines behavioural zones (0-10], (10-20], (20-30]
zone_labels	labels for zones defined by zone_thresholds, must match zone_thresholds in length
blind_volume	(optional) interindividual direction to define symmetrical window outside of focal individual's perception, eg. 2 becomes (-2, 2), see Details

## Details

edge\_zones uses interindividual distances, and optionally directions, to assign neighboring individuals to a focal individual's behavioural zones. The user provides zone thresholds (eg. 25 m, 100 m, 250 m) along with zone labels (eg. zone of repulsion, zone of orientation, zone of attraction), according to their objectives, study species and system. The optional blind volume can be provided to define a range of interindividual directions that correspond to the limits of the focal individual's perception.

Two workflows for this function exist, depending on if the blind volume argument is used:

a) If the blind volume is not provided, simply provide your distance based edge-lists from `edge_dist` with zone thresholds and labels.

b) If the blind volume is provided, the following order of functions is expected to ensure the relevant direction columns are available:

1. `direction_step(DT)`
2. `edges <- edge_dist(DT)`
3. `dyad_id(edges)`
4. `dyad_directions <- edge_direction(edges, DT)`
5. `edge_zones(dyad_directions)`

Interindividual distances are converted into behavioural zones using `cut`. The thresholds provided are used as cut points for a series of intervals that are open on the left and closed on the right, starting at 0. See details in `base::cut()`.

The (optional) blind volume defines the range of interindividual directions between the focal individual (ID1) and the neighbour (ID2) that is outside of the focal individual's perception. The interindividual direction (column "direction\_dyad" from `edge_direction`) is made relative to the focal individual's movement direction (column "direction" from `direction_step`). The argument `blind_volume` expects a single value to define a symmetrical window behind the focal individual's movement direction eg. where `blind_volume = 2`, the symmetrical window is from (-2, 2).

The edges must be a `data.table`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

## Value

edge\_zones returns the input edges appended with a zone column indicating the behavioural zone, using the zone label provided.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

A message is returned when a zone column already exists in the input edges, because it will be overwritten.

## References

The behavioural zones metric is defined in Couzin et al. 2002 ([doi:10.1006/jtbi.2002.3065](https://doi.org/10.1006/jtbi.2002.3065)).

See examples of measuring behavioural zones:

- [doi:10.1073/pnas.1001763107](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1001763107)
- [doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1008832](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1008832)
- [doi:10.3389/fphy.2021.715996](https://doi.org/10.3389/fphy.2021.715996)

**See Also**

[edge\\_dist](#) [direction\\_step](#) [edge\\_direction](#)

Other Distance functions: [distance\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [distance\\_to\\_leader\(\)](#), [edge\\_dist\(\)](#), [edge\\_nn\(\)](#)

Other Direction functions: [direction\\_group\(\)](#), [direction\\_polarization\(\)](#), [direction\\_step\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_leader\(\)](#), [edge\\_alignment\(\)](#), [edge\\_delay\(\)](#), [edge\\_direction\(\)](#), [leader\\_direction\\_group\(\)](#), [leader\\_edge\\_delay\(\)](#)

**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 = FALSE
)

# Calculate behavioural zones
edge_zones(
  edges,
  zone_thresholds = c(25, 50, 75),
  zone_labels = c('repulsion', 'orientation', 'attraction')
)

# Alternatively, if a user wants to specify a blind volume,
# we need to measure directions
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
)

# Edge list generation
```

```

edges <- edge_dist(
  DT,
  threshold = 100,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  timegroup = 'timegroup',
  returnDist = TRUE,
  fillNA = FALSE
)

# Generate dyad id
dyad_id(edges, id1 = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')

# Interindividual directions
dyad_directions <- edge_direction(
  edges,
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736,
  timegroup = 'timegroup'
)

# Calculate behavioural zones
edge_zones(
  dyad_directions,
  zone_thresholds = c(25, 50, 75),
  zone_labels = c('repulsion', 'orientation', 'attraction'),
  blind_volume = 2
)
print(dyad_directions[, .SD[1:3], by = zone])

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
direction_step(DT, id = 'ID')
edges <- edge_dist(DT, threshold = 100, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup', returnDist = TRUE)
dyad_id(edges, id = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')
dyad_directions <- edge_direction(
  edges,
  DT,
  id = 'ID',
  timegroup = 'timegroup'
)
edge_zones(
  dyad_directions,
  zone_thresholds = c(25, 50, 75),
  zone_labels = c('repulsion', 'orientation', 'attraction'),
  blind_volume = 2
)
print(dyad_directions[, .SD[1:3], by = zone])

```

---

fusion_id	<i>Fission-fusion id</i>
-----------	--------------------------

---

### Description

fusion\_id identifies fusion events in distance based edge-lists. The function expects a distance based edge-list generated by edge\_dist, a threshold argument and arguments controlling how fusion events are defined.

### Usage

```
fusion_id(
  edges = NULL,
  threshold = NULL,
  n_min_length = 0,
  n_max_missing = 0,
  allow_split = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

edges	distance based edge-list generated by edge_dist function, with 'dyadID' column generated by dyad_ID
threshold	spatial distance threshold in the units of the crs
n_min_length	minimum length of fusion events
n_max_missing	maximum number of missing observations within a fusion event
allow_split	logical defining if a single observation can be greater than the threshold distance without initiating fission event

### Details

The edges must be a data.table returned by the edge\_dist function. In addition, fusion\_id requires a dyad ID set on the edge list generated by dyad\_id. If your data is a data.frame, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT()`.

The threshold must be provided in the units of the coordinates. The threshold must be larger than 0. Eg. in the case of UTM, a threshold = 50 would indicate a 50 m distance threshold.

The n\_min\_length argument defines the minimum number of successive fixes that are required to establish a fusion event. The n\_max\_missing argument defines the the maximum number of allowable missing observations for the dyad within a fusion event. The allow\_split argument defines if a single observation can be greater than the threshold distance without initiating fission event.

**Value**

fusion\_id returns the input edges appended with a fusionID column.

This column represents the fusion event id. As with spatsock's grouping functions, the actual value of fusionID is arbitrary and represents the identity of a given fusion event. If the data was reordered, the fusionID may change, but the membership of each fusion event would not.

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

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

**References**

See examples of identifying fission-fusion events with spatiotemporal data:

- [doi:10.1111/ele.12457](https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12457)
- [doi:10.1016/j.anbehav.2018.03.014](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2018.03.014)
- [doi:10.1890/080345.1](https://doi.org/10.1890/080345.1)

**See Also**

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_dist(
  DT,
  threshold = 100,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  timegroup = 'timegroup',
  returnDist = TRUE,
  fillNA = TRUE
)

dyad_id(edges, 'ID1', 'ID2')

fusion_id(
```

```

edges = edges,
threshold = 100,
n_min_length = 1,
n_max_missing = 0,
allow_split = FALSE
)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
edges <- edge_dist(DT, threshold = 100, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup', returnDist = TRUE)
dyad_id(edges, id = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')
fusion_id(edges, threshold = 100)

```

---

get\_gbi *Group by individual matrix*

---

### Description

get\_gbi generates a group by individual matrix. The function expects 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),
            crs = utm, id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
            splitBy = 'yr')

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

---

get\_geometry

*Get geometry*

---

**Description**

get\_geometry sets up an input DT with a 'geometry' column for spatsoc's geometry interface. The function expects a data.table with relocation data and a coordinate reference system.

**Usage**

```
get_geometry(
  DT = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  crs = NULL,
  output_crs = NULL,
  geometry_colname = "geometry"
)
```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <a href="#">sf::st_crs</a> . For example, crs = "EPSG:32736" or crs = 32736.
output_crs	default NULL, the output crs to transform the input coordinates to with <a href="#">sf::st_transform</a> . If output_crs is NULL or matching the crs argument, the coordinates will not be transformed
geometry_colname	default "geometry", to optionally set output name of simple feature geometry list column

**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\(\)](#) or by reassigning using [data.table::data.table\(\)](#).

The coords argument expects the names of columns in DT which correspond to the X and Y coordinates.

The output\_crs argument allows the user to set an output crs for their geometry column. Note: some functions in spatoc (eg. those that measure directions like `edge_direction` and `direction_to_leader`) require geographic coordinates and it is therefore simpler to leave the default `output_crs = 4326`.

**Value**

`get_geometry` returns the input DT appended with a geometry column which represents the input coordinates as a sfc (simple feature geometry list column). If the `output_crs` was provided, the geometry will be transformed to the `output_crs`.

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

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

**Examples**

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

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

# Get geometry
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)

# Print
print(DT)
```

---

group_lines	<i>Group lines</i>
-------------	--------------------

---

### Description

group\_lines groups rows into spatial groups by generating LINESTRINGs and grouping based on spatial intersection. The function expects 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,
  crs = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  timegroup = NULL,
  sortBy = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  sfLines = NULL,
  projection = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

DT	input data.table
threshold	The width of the buffer around the lines in the units of the crs. Use threshold = 0 to compare intersection without buffering.
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to sf::st_crs. For example, either crs = "EPSG:32736" or crs = 32736. Used only if coords are provided, see details under Interface
id	character string of ID column name
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
timegroup	timegroup field in the DT within which the output 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 output 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.

projection (deprecated) use crs argument instead

## Details

### R-spatial evolution:

Please note, spatoc has followed updates from R spatial, GDAL and PROJ for handling coordinate reference systems, 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 crs argument expects a numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system. For example, for UTM zone 36N (EPSG 32736), the crs argument is either `crs = 'EPSG:32736'` or `crs = 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, in the units of the coordinates. Eg. 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 details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

**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, crs = 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, crs = utm,
            id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'),
            timegroup = 'timegroup', sortBy = 'datetime')

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

## Description

group\_polys groups rows into spatial groups by overlapping polygons (home ranges). The function expects 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 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,
  crs = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  coords = NULL,
  splitBy = NULL,
  sfPolys = NULL,
  projection = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

DT	input <code>data.table</code>
area	logical 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 <code>adehabitatHR</code> functions
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if <code>coords</code> are provided, see details under Interface
id	character string of ID column name
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the output will be calculated
sfPolys	Alternatively, provide solely a simple features object with POLYGONS or MULTIPOLYGONS. If <code>sfPolys</code> are provided, <code>id</code> is required and <code>splitBy</code> cannot be used.
projection	(deprecated) use <code>crs</code> argument instead

## Details

### R-spatial evolution:

Please note, spatoc has followed updates from R spatial, GDAL and PROJ for handling coordinate reference systems, 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 crs 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 crs argument is crs = "EPSG:32736" or crs = 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.

Note: if area is TRUE, the output of group\_polys needs to be reassigned. See details in [FAQ](#).

## 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), crs = utm,
            id = 'ID', coords = c('X', 'Y'))

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

print(areaDT)

```

---

group\_pts

*Group points*


---

**Description**

group\_pts groups rows into spatial groups. The function expects 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, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function [get\\_geometry\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```

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

```

**Arguments**

DT	input data.table
threshold	distance for grouping points, either numeric or units, in the units of the crs / the coordinates or geometry
id	character string of ID column name
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
timegroup	timegroup field in the DT within which the output will be calculated
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <a href="#">sf::st_crs</a> . For example, either crs = "EPSG:32736" or crs = 32736. Used only if coords are provided, see details under Interface
splitBy	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the output will be calculated
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <a href="#">get_geometry()</a> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface

**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\(\)](#) or by reassigning using [data.table::data.table\(\)](#).

The id, timegroup (and optional splitBy) arguments expect the names of columns in DT which correspond to the individual identifier, and timegroup (generated by [group\\_times](#)) and additional grouping columns.

The threshold provided should match the units of the coordinates. The threshold can be provided with units specified using the units package (eg. `threshold = units::set_units(10, m)`) which will be checked against the units of the coordinates using the crs. If units are not specified, the threshold is assumed to be in the units of the coordinates.

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.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates and under "Distance function" for details on underlying distance function used.

**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 details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

## Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide coords and crs. The coords argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The crs 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 crs argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.
2. (New!) Provide geometry. The geometry argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the coords and crs arguments NULL, and the default argument for geometry ('geometry') will be used directly.

## Distance function

The underlying distance function used depends on the crs of the coordinates or geometry provided.

- If the crs is longlat degrees (as determined by `sf::st_is_longlat()`), the distance function is `sf::st_distance()` which passes to `s2::s2_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is TRUE and `lwgeom::st_geod_distance()` if `sf::sf_use_s2()` is FALSE. The distance returned has units set according to the crs.
- If the crs is not longlat degrees (eg. NULL, NA\_crs\_, or projected), the distance function used is `stats::dist()`, maintaining expected behaviour from previous versions. The distance returned does not have units set.

Note: in both cases, if the coordinates are NA then the result will be NA.

## 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')

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
group_pts(DT, threshold = 50, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup')

```

---

group\_times

*Group times*


---

## Description

group\_times groups rows into time groups. The function expects 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 details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

## 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')
```

---

leader\_direction\_group

*Leadership along group direction*


---

**Description**

Given the mean direction of a group of individuals, `leader_direction_group` shifts the coordinate system to a new origin at the group centroid and rotates the coordinate system by the mean direction to return each individual's position along the mean direction, representing leadership in terms of the front-back position in each group's mean direction. Relocation data should be in two columns representing the X and Y coordinates, or in a geometry column prepared by the helper function `get_geometry()`.

**Usage**

```
leader_direction_group(
  DT = NULL,
  group_direction = "group_direction",
  coords = NULL,
  group = "group",
  crs = NULL,
  geometry = "geometry",
  return_rank = TRUE,
  ties.method = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

DT           input data.table with group direction columns generated by `direction_group` and centroid columns generated by `centroid_group`

group_direction	group_direction column name generated using <code>direction_group</code> , default 'group_direction'
coords	character vector of X coordinate and Y coordinate column names. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y column names
group	group column name, generated by <code>group_pts</code> , default 'group'
crs	numeric or character defining the coordinate reference system to be passed to <code>sf::st_crs</code> . For example, either <code>crs = "EPSG:32736"</code> or <code>crs = 32736</code> . Used only if <code>coords</code> are provided, see details under Interface
geometry	simple feature geometry list column name, generated by <code>get_geometry()</code> . Default 'geometry', see details under Interface
return_rank	logical if rank distance should also be returned, default TRUE
ties.method	see <code>?data.table::frank()</code>

### Details

The function expects a `data.table` with relocation data appended with a `group_direction` column from `direction_group()` and group centroid columns from `centroid_group()`.

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

The `group_direction` argument expects the names of columns in DT which correspond to the mean group direction generated by `direction_group()`. The mean group direction column is expected in units of radians. The `return_rank` argument controls if the rank of each individual's distance to the group centroid is also returned. If `return_rank` is TRUE, the `group` argument is required to specify the group column generated by `group_pts()`. The `ties.method` argument is passed to `data.table::frank()`, see details at `?data.table::frank()`.

See below under "Interface" for details on providing coordinates.

### Value

`leader_direction_group` returns the input DT appended with a `position_group_direction` column indicating the position along the group direction in the units of the crs and, optionally when `return_rank = TRUE`, a `rank_position_group_direction` column indicating the ranked position along the group direction.

A message is returned when `position_group_direction` or `rank_position_group_direction` columns already exist in the input DT, because they will be overwritten.

See details for appending outputs using modify-by-reference in the [FAQ](#).

### Interface

Two interfaces are available for providing coordinates:

1. Provide `coords` and `crs`. The `coords` argument expects the names of the X and Y coordinate columns. The `crs` 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 `crs` argument is `crs = "EPSG:32736"` or `crs = 32736`. See <https://spatialreference.org> for a list of EPSG codes.

2. (New!) Provide geometry. The geometry argument allows the user to supply a geometry column that represents the coordinates as a simple feature geometry list column. This interface expects the user to prepare their input DT with `get_geometry()`. To use this interface, leave the `coords` and `crs` arguments NULL, and the default argument for `geometry` ('geometry') will be used directly.

## References

See examples of measuring leadership along group direction (also called forefront index):

- [doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0036567](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0036567)
- [doi:10.1111/jfb.15315](https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.15315)
- [doi:10.1098/rspb.2021.0839](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2021.0839)

## See Also

`direction_group`, `centroid_group`

Other Leadership functions: `direction_to_leader()`, `leader_edge_delay()`

Other Direction functions: `direction_group()`, `direction_polarization()`, `direction_step()`, `direction_to_centroid()`, `direction_to_leader()`, `edge_alignment()`, `edge_delay()`, `edge_direction()`, `edge_zones()`, `leader_edge_delay()`

## 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 = 50, id = 'ID',
          coords = c('X', 'Y'), timegroup = 'timegroup')

# Calculate direction at each step
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
)

# Calculate group centroid
centroid_group(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'))
```

```

# Calculate group direction
direction_group(DT)

# Calculate leader in terms of position along group direction
leader_direction_group(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
direction_step(DT = DT, id = 'ID')
centroid_group(DT)
direction_group(DT)
leader_direction_group(DT)

```

---

leader_edge_delay	<i>Leadership in directional correlation delay</i>
-------------------	--

---

## Description

Given the directional correlation delay, `leader_edge_delay` calculates the mean directional correlation delay for individuals in a group to identify leadership patterns.

## Usage

```
leader_edge_delay(edges = NULL, threshold = NULL, splitBy = NULL)
```

## Arguments

<code>edges</code>	edge-list generated generated by <code>edge_dist()</code> or <code>edge_nn()</code> , with fusionID column generated by <code>fusion_id()</code>
<code>threshold</code>	(optional) threshold difference in direction used to subset rows included in calculation of mean directional delay. eg. <code>threshold = 0.5</code> corresponds to only rows where <code>direction_diff</code> is less than 0.5. Expects that unit is radians, see <code>edge_delay</code> .
<code>splitBy</code>	(optional) character string or vector of grouping column name(s) upon which the mean directional correlation delay will be calculated

## Details

The function expects an edge-list from `edge_delay` with columns `'direction_delay'` indicating the directional correlation delay between individuals and `'direction_diff'` indicating the unsigned difference in movement directions at the temporal delay, columns `'ID1'` and `'ID2'` indicating individuals and column `'dyadID'` indicating the dyad.

The edge must be a `data.table`. If your data is a `data.frame`, you can convert it by reference using `data.table::setDT()` or by reassigning using `data.table::data.table()`.

**Value**

leader\_edge\_delay returns the input edges aggregated with a mean\_direction\_delay\_dyad column indicating the mean directional correlation delay between ID1 and ID2 and a mean\_direction\_delay column indicating the mean directional correlation delay for each individual in 'ID1' column.

Note: since leader\_edge\_delay returns an aggregation of the input edges, the output needs to be reassigned unlike some other spatsoc functions like dyad\_id. See details in [FAQ](#).

**References**

See examples of measuring leadership using the directional correlation delay:

- [doi:10.1016/j.anbehav.2013.07.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2013.07.005)
- [doi:10.1073/pnas.1305552110](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1305552110)
- [doi:10.1126/science.aap7781](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aap7781)
- [doi:10.1111/jfb.15315](https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.15315)
- [doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1003446](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1003446)

**See Also**

edge\_delay

Other Leadership functions: [direction\\_to\\_leader\(\)](#), [leader\\_direction\\_group\(\)](#)

Other Direction functions: [direction\\_group\(\)](#), [direction\\_polarization\(\)](#), [direction\\_step\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_centroid\(\)](#), [direction\\_to\\_leader\(\)](#), [edge\\_alignment\(\)](#), [edge\\_delay\(\)](#), [edge\\_direction\(\)](#), [edge\\_zones\(\)](#), [leader\\_direction\\_group\(\)](#)

**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')

# Calculate direction
direction_step(
  DT = DT,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  crs = 32736
```

```
)

# Distance based edge-list generation
edges <- edge_dist(
  DT,
  threshold = 100,
  id = 'ID',
  coords = c('X', 'Y'),
  timegroup = 'timegroup',
  returnDist = TRUE,
  fillNA = FALSE
)

# Generate dyad id
dyad_id(edges, id1 = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')

# Generate fusion id
fusion_id(edges, threshold = 100)

# Directional correlation delay
delay <- edge_delay(
  edges = edges,
  DT = DT,
  window = 3,
  id = 'ID'
)

# Leadership from directional correlation delay
leadership <- leader_edge_delay(
  delay,
  threshold = 0.5
)
print(leadership)

# Or, using the new geometry interface
get_geometry(DT, coords = c('X', 'Y'), crs = 32736)
direction_step(DT, id = 'ID')
edges <- edge_dist(DT, threshold = 100, id = 'ID', timegroup = 'timegroup', returnDist = TRUE)
dyad_id(edges, id = 'ID1', id2 = 'ID2')
fusion_id(edges, threshold = 100)
delay <- edge_delay(
  edges = edges,
  DT = DT,
  window = 3,
  id = 'ID'
)
leadership <- leader_edge_delay(
  delay,
  threshold = 0.5
)
print(leadership)
```

---

randomizations	<i>Data-stream randomizations</i>
----------------	-----------------------------------

---

### Description

randomizations performs data-stream social network randomization. The function expects 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 <code>data.table</code>
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. Note: the order is assumed X followed by Y 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

[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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