

# Package ‘roads’

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**Title** Road Network Projection

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**URL** <https://github.com/LandSciTech/roads>,  
<https://landscitech.github.io/roads/>

**Description** Iterative least cost path and minimum spanning tree methods for projecting forest road networks. The methods connect a set of target points to an existing road network using 'igraph' <<https://igraph.org>> to identify least cost routes. The cost of constructing a road segment between adjacent pixels is determined by a user supplied weight raster and a weight function; options include the average of adjacent weight raster values, and a function of the elevation differences between adjacent cells that penalizes steep grades. These road network projection methods are intended for integration into R workflows and modelling frameworks used for forecasting forest change, and can be applied over multiple time-steps without rebuilding a graph at each time-step.

**License** Apache License (>= 2)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Imports** dplyr, igraph (>= 2.0.3), data.table, sf, units, rlang,  
methods, tidyselect, terra

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.1

**Suggests** testthat (>= 2.1.0), knitr, rmarkdown, viridis, tmap, bench,  
gdistance

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**Collate** 'CLUSexample.R' 'buildSimList.R' 'buildSnapRoads.R'  
'demoScen.R' 'getClosestRoad.R' 'getDistFromSource.R'  
'getGraph.R' 'weightFunctions.R' 'getLandingsFromTarget.R'  
'lcpList.R' 'mstList.R' 'pathsToLines.R' 'projectRoads.R'  
'rasterToLineSegments.R' 'shortestPaths.R' 'plotRoads.R'  
'rasterizeLine.R' 'prepExData.R' 'roads-package.R'  
'dem\_example.R'

**BugReports** <https://github.com/LandSciTech/roads/issues>

**NeedsCompilation** no

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 functions getGraph, lcpList, mstList, shortestPaths,  
 getClosestRoad, buildSnapRoads)

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---

CLUSexample

*Data from the CLUS example*

---

## Description

From Kyle Lochhead and Tyler Muhly's CLUS road simulation example. SpatRaster files created with the terra package must be saved with `terra::wrap()` and need to be unwrapped before they are used. `prepExData()` does this.

## Usage

`data(CLUSexample)`

**Format**

A named list with components:

- cost: a PackedSpatRaster representing road building cost.
- landings: an sf dataframe of points representing landing locations.
- roads: a PackedSpatRaster representing existing roads.

**Examples**

```
CLUsexample  
prepExData(CLUsexample)
```

---

demoScen

*Demonstration set of 10 input scenarios*

---

**Description**

A demonstration set of scenarios that can be used as input to [projectRoads\(\)](#). The data contains SpatRaster objects that must be wrapped to be stored. To unwrap them use [prepExData\(\)](#)

**Usage**

```
data(demoScen)
```

**Format**

A list of sub-lists, with each sub-list representing an input scenario. The scenarios (sub-lists) each contain the following components:

- scen.number: An integer value representing the scenario number (generated scenarios are numbered incrementally from 1).
- road.rast: A logical PackedSpatRaster representing existing roads. TRUE is existing road. FALSE is not existing road.
- road.line: A sf object representing existing roads.
- cost.rast: A PackedSpatRaster representing the cost of developing new roads on a given cell.
- landings.points: A sf object representing landings sets and landing locations within each set. The data frame includes a field named 'set' which contains integer values representing the landings set that each point belongs to
- landings.stack: A PackedSpatRaster with multiple layers representing the landings and landings sets. Each logical layer represents one landings set. Values of TRUE are a landing in the given set. Values of FALSE are not.
- landings.poly: A sf object representing a single set of polygonal landings.

**See Also**

[projectRoads](#)

## Examples

```
demoScen[[1]]
demoScen <- prepExData(demoScen)
demoScen[[1]]
```

---

dem\_example

*Grade penalty example data*

---

## Description

A list containing two rasters covering an area near Revelstoke, British Columbia, Canada. `ex_elev` is elevation data and `ex_wat` is the proportion of the cell that contains water. Both are subsets of data downloaded with the `geodata` package at 30 arc seconds resolution. `SpatRaster` files created with the `terra` package must be saved with `terra::wrap()` and need to be unwrapped before they are used. `prepExData()` does this.

## Usage

```
data(dem_example)
```

## Format

A named list with components:

- `ex_elev`: a `PackedSpatRaster` of elevation.
- `ex_wat`: a `PackedSpatRaster` of proportion water.

## Details

Elevation data are primarily from Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM), specifically the hole-filled CGIAR-SRTM (90 m resolution) from <https://srtm.csi.cgiar.org/>.

Water data are derived from the ESA WorldCover data set at 0.3-seconds resolution. (License CC BY 4.0). See <https://esa-worldcover.org/en> for more information.

## References

Zanaga, D., Van De Kerchove, R., De Keersmaecker, W., Souverijns, N., Brockmann, C., Quast, R., Wevers, J., Grosu, A., Paccini, A., Vergnaud, S., Cartus, O., Santoro, M., Fritz, S., Georgieva, I., Lesiv, M., Carter, S., Herold, M., Li, Linlin, Tsendbazar, N.E., Ramoino, F., Arino, O., 2021. ESA WorldCover 10 m 2020 v100. doi:10.5281/zenodo.5571936.

## Examples

```
dem_example
prepExData(dem_example)
```

---

getLandingsFromTarget *Get landing target points within harvest blocks*

---

### Description

Generate landing points inside polygons representing harvested area. There are three different sampling types available: "centroid" (default) returns the centroid or a point inside the polygon if the centroid is not (see `sf::st_point_on_surface()`); "random" returns a random sample given landingDens see (`sf::st_sample()`); "regular" returns points on a regular grid with cell size  $\sqrt{1/\text{landingDens}}$  that intersect the polygon, or centroid if no grid points fall within the polygon.

### Usage

```
getLandingsFromTarget(harvest, landingDens = NULL, sampleType = "centroid")
```

### Arguments

harvest	sf, SpatialPolygons, SpatRaster or RasterLayer object with harvested areas. If it is a raster with values outside 0,1, values are assumed to be harvest block IDs. If raster values are in 0,1 they are assumed to be a binary raster and <code>terra::patches</code> is used to identify harvest blocks.
landingDens	number of landings per unit area. This should be in the same units as the CRS of the harvest. Note that 0.001 points per m2 is > 1000 points per km2 so this number is usually very small for projected CRS.
sampleType	character. "centroid" (default), "regular" or "random". "centroid" returns one landing per harvest block, which is guaranteed to be in the harvest block for sf objects but not for rasters. "regular" returns points from a grid with density landingDens that overlap the harvested areas. "random" returns a random set of points from each polygon determined by the area of the polygon and landingDens. If harvest is a raster set of landings always includes the centroid to ensure at least one landing for each harvest block.

### Details

Note that the landingDens is points per unit area where the unit of area is determined by the CRS. For projected CRS this should likely be a very small number i.e. < 0.001.

### Value

an sf simple feature collection with an ID column and POINT geometry

### Examples

```
doPlots <- interactive()
demoScen <- prepExData(demoScen)
```

```

polys <- demoScen[[1]]$landings.poly[1:2,]

# Get centroid
outCent <- getLandingsFromTarget(polys)

if(doPlots){
  plot(sf::st_geometry(polys))
  plot(outCent, col = "red", add = TRUE)
}

# Get random sample with density 0.1 points per unit area
outRand <- getLandingsFromTarget(polys, 0.1, sampleType = "random")

if(doPlots){
  plot(sf::st_geometry(polys))
  plot(outRand, col = "red", add = TRUE)
}

# Get regular sample with density 0.1 points per unit area
outReg <- getLandingsFromTarget(polys, 0.1, sampleType = "regular")

if(doPlots){
  plot(sf::st_geometry(polys))
  plot(outReg, col = "red", add = TRUE)
}

```

---

gradePenaltyFn

*Grade penalty edge weight function*


---

### Description

Method for calculating the weight of an edge between two nodes from the value of the input raster at each of those nodes (x1 and x2), designed for a single DEM input. The method assumes an input weightRaster in which:

- NA indicates a road cannot be built
- Negative values are costs for crossing streams or other barriers that are crossable but expensive. Edges that link to barrier penalty (negative value) nodes are assigned the largest barrier penalty weight.
- Zero values are assumed to be existing roads.
- All other values are interpreted as elevation in the units of the raster map (so that a difference between two cells equal to the map resolution can be interpreted as 100% grade) This is a simplified version of the grade penalty approach taken by Anderson and Nelson (2004): The approach does not distinguish between adverse and favourable grades. Default construction cost values are from the BC interior appraisal manual. The approach ignores (unknown) grade penalties beside roads and barriers in order to avoid increased memory and computational burden associated with multiple input rasters.

**Usage**

```
gradePenaltyFn(
  x1,
  x2,
  hdistance,
  baseCost = 16178,
  limit = 20,
  penalty = 504,
  limitWeight = NA
)
```

**Arguments**

x1, x2	Number. Value of the input raster at two nodes.
hdistance	Number. Horizontal distance between nodes. hdistance, x1, and x2 should have the same units.
baseCost	Number. Construction cost of 0% grade road per km.
limit	Number. Maximum grade (%) on which roads can be built.
penalty	Number. Cost increase (per km) associated with each additional % increase in road grade.
limitWeight	Number. Value assigned to edges that exceed the grade limit. Try setting to a high (not NA) value if encountering problems with disconnected graphs.

**References**

Anderson AE, Nelson J (2004) Projecting vector-based road networks with a shortest path algorithm. Canadian Journal of Forest Research 34:1444–1457. <https://doi.org/10.1139/x04-030>

**Examples**

```
gradePenaltyFn(0.5, 0.51, 1)
gradePenaltyFn(0.5, 0.65, 1)
# grade > 20% so NA
gradePenaltyFn(0.5, 0.75, 1)
```

---

plotRoads

*Plot projected roads*


---

**Description**

Plot the results of `projectRoads()`

**Usage**

```
plotRoads(sim, mainTitle, subTitle = paste0("Method: ", sim$roadMethod), ...)
```

**Arguments**

`sim`                `sim` list result from `projectRoads`  
`mainTitle`        character. A title for the plot  
`subTitle`        character. A sub title for the plot, by default the `roadMethod` is used  
`...`              Other arguments passed to raster plot call for the `weightRaster`

**Value**

Creates a plot using base graphics

**Examples**

```

CLUSEXample <- prepExData(CLUSEXample)
prRes <- projectRoads(CLUSEXample$landings, CLUSEXample$cost, CLUSEXample$roads)
if(interactive()){
  plotRoads(prRes, "Title")
}

```

---

```
prepExData
```

---

*Prepare example data*

---

**Description**

Prepare example data included in the package that contain wrapped terra objects. This applies `terra::unwrap()` recursively to the list provided so that all `PackedSpatRasters` are converted to `SpatRasters`.

**Usage**

```
prepExData(x)
```

**Arguments**

`x`                    list. Contains elements some of which are packed `SpatRasters`.

**Value**

The same list but with unwrapped `SpatRasters`

**Examples**

```

CLUSEXample
prepExData(CLUSEXample)

```



---

projectRoads	<i>Project road network</i>
--------------	-----------------------------

---

### Description

Project a road network that links target landings to existing roads. For all methods except "snap", a weightRaster and weightFunction together determine the cost to build a road between two adjacent raster cells.

### Usage

```
projectRoads(
  landings = NULL,
  weightRaster = NULL,
  roads = NULL,
  roadMethod = "ilcp",
  plotRoads = FALSE,
  mainTitle = "",
  neighbourhood = "octagon",
  weightFunction = simpleCostFn,
  sim = NULL,
  roadsOut = NULL,
  roadsInWeight = TRUE,
  ordering = "closest",
  roadsConnected = FALSE,
  ...
)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,missing'
projectRoads(
  landings = NULL,
  weightRaster = NULL,
  roads = NULL,
  roadMethod = "ilcp",
  plotRoads = FALSE,
  mainTitle = "",
  neighbourhood = "octagon",
  weightFunction = simpleCostFn,
  sim = NULL,
  roadsOut = NULL,
  roadsInWeight = TRUE,
  ordering = "closest",
  roadsConnected = FALSE,
  ...
)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,ANY,list'
```

```

projectRoads(
  landings = NULL,
  weightRaster = NULL,
  roads = NULL,
  roadMethod = "ilcp",
  plotRoads = FALSE,
  mainTitle = "",
  neighbourhood = "octagon",
  weightFunction = simpleCostFn,
  sim = NULL,
  roadsOut = NULL,
  roadsInWeight = TRUE,
  ordering = "closest",
  roadsConnected = FALSE,
  ...
)

```

### Arguments

landings	sf polygons or points, RasterLayer, SpatialPolygons*, SpatialPoints*, or matrix. Contains features to be connected to the road network. Matrix should contain columns x, y with coordinates, all other columns will be ignored. Polygon and raster inputs will be processed by <code>getLandingsFromTarget()</code> to get the centroid of harvest blocks.
weightRaster	SpatRaster or RasterLayer. A weightRaster and weightFunction together determine the cost to build a road between two adjacent raster cells. For the default weightFunction = simpleCostFn, the weightRaster should specify the cost of construction across each raster cell. The value of cells that contain existing roads should be set to 0; if not set roadsInWeight = FALSE to adjust the cost of existing roads. To use the alternative grade penalty method, set weightFunction = gradePenaltyFn, and provide a weightRaster in which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA indicates a road cannot be built</li> <li>• Negative values are costs for crossing streams or other barriers that are crossable but expensive.</li> <li>• Zero values are existing roads.</li> <li>• All other values are interpreted as elevation in the units of the raster map (so that a difference between two cells equal to the map resolution can be interpreted as 100% grade).</li> </ul>
roads	sf lines, SpatialLines*, RasterLayer, SpatRaster. The existing road network.
roadMethod	Character. Options are "ilcp", "mst", "lcp", and "snap". See Details below.
plotRoads	Boolean. Should the resulting road network be plotted. Default FALSE.
mainTitle	Character. A title for the plot.
neighbourhood	Character. "rook", "queen", or "octagon". Determines which cells are considered adjacent. The default "octagon" option is a modified version of the queen's 8 cell neighbourhood in which diagonal weights are multiplied by $2^{0.5}$ .

weightFunction	function. Method for calculating the weight of an edge between two nodes from the value of the weightRaster at each of those nodes (x1 and x2). The default simpleCostFn is the mean. The alternative, gradePenaltyFn, sets edge weights as a function of the difference between adjacent weightRaster cells to penalize steep grades. Users supplying their own weightFunction should note that it must be symmetric, meaning that the value returned should not depend on the ordering of x1 and x2. The weightFunction must include arguments x1, x2 and . . . .
sim	list. Returned from a previous iteration of projectRoads. weightRaster, roads, and roadMethod are ignored if a sim list is provided.
roadsOut	Character. Either "raster", "sf" or NULL. If "raster" roads are returned as a SpatRaster in the sim list. If "sf" the roads are returned as an sf object which will contain lines if the roads input was sf lines but a geometry collection of lines and points if the roads input was a raster. The points in the geometry collection represent the existing roads while new roads are created as lines. If NULL (default) then the returned roads are sf if the input is sf or Spatial* and SpatRaster if the input was a raster.
roadsInWeight	Logical. If TRUE (default) the value of existing roads in the weightRaster is assumed to be 0. If FALSE cells in the weightRaster that contain existing roads will be set to 0.
ordering	character. The order in which landings are processed when roadMethod = "ilcp". Options are "closest" (default) where landings closest to existing roads are accessed first, or "none" where landings are accessed in the order they are provided in.
roadsConnected	Logical. Are all roads fully connected? If TRUE and roadMethod = "mst" the MST graph can be simplified and the projection should be faster. Default is FALSE.
. . .	Optional additional arguments to weightFunction.

## Details

Four road network projection methods are:

- "lcp": The Least Cost Path method connects each landing to the closest road with a least cost path, without reference to other landings.
- "ilcp": The Iterative Least Cost Path method iteratively connects each landing to the closest road with a least cost path, so that the path to each successive landing can include roads constructed to access previous landings. The sequence of landings is determined by ordering and is "closest" by default. The alternative "none" option processes landings in the order supplied by the user.
- "mst": The Minimum Spanning Tree method connects landings to the existing road with a minimum spanning tree that does not require users to specify the order in which landings are processed.
- "snap": Connects each landing to the closest (by Euclidean distance) road without, reference to the weights or other landings.

**Value**

a list with components:

- roads: the projected road network, including new and input roads.
- weightRaster: the updated weightRaster in which new and old roads have value 0.
- roadMethod: the road simulation method used.
- landings: the landings used in the simulation.
- g: the graph that describes the cost of paths between each cell in the updated weightRaster. Edges between vertices connected by new roads have weight 0. g can be used to avoid the cost of rebuilding the graph in a simulation with multiple time steps.

**Examples**

```

CLUSEXample <- prepExData(CLUSEXample)
doPlots <- interactive()

projectRoads(CLUSEXample$landings, CLUSEXample$cost, CLUSEXample$roads,
             "lcp", plotRoads = doPlots, mainTitle = "CLUSEXample")

# More realistic examples that take longer to run

demoScen <- prepExData(demoScen)

### using: scenario 1 / sf landings / iterative least-cost path ("ilcp")
# demo scenario 1
scen <- demoScen[[1]]

# landing set 1 of scenario 1:
land.pnts <- scen$landings.points[scen$landings.points$set==1,]

prRes <- projectRoads(land.pnts, scen$cost.rast, scen$road.line, "ilcp",
                    plotRoads = doPlots, mainTitle = "Scen 1: SPDF-LCP")

### using: scenario 1 / `SpatRaster` landings / minimum spanning tree ("mst")
# demo scenario 1
scen <- demoScen[[1]]

# the RasterLayer version of landing set 1 of scenario 1:
land.rLyr <- scen$landings.stack[[1]]

prRes <- projectRoads(land.rLyr, scen$cost.rast, scen$road.line, "mst",
                    plotRoads = doPlots, mainTitle = "Scen 1: Raster-MST")

### using: scenario 2 / matrix landings raster roads / snapping ("snap")
# demo scenario 2
scen <- demoScen[[2]]

```

```
# landing set 5 of scenario 2, as matrix:
land.mat <- scen$landings.points[scen$landings.points$set==5,] |>
  sf::st_coordinates()

prRes <- projectRoads(land.mat, scen$cost.rast, scen$road.rast, "snap",
  plotRoads = doPlots, mainTitle = "Scen 2: Matrix-Snap")

## using scenario 7 / Polygon landings raster / minimum spanning tree
# demo scenario 7
scen <- demoScen[[7]]
# rasterize polygonal landings of demo scenario 7:
land.polyR <- terra::rasterize(scen$landings.poly, scen$cost.rast)

prRes <- projectRoads(land.polyR, scen$cost.rast, scen$road.rast, "mst",
  plotRoads = doPlots, mainTitle = "Scen 7: PolyRast-MST")
```

---

rasterToLineSegments *Convert raster to lines*

---

## Description

Converts rasters that represent lines into an sf object.

## Usage

```
rasterToLineSegments(rast, method = "mst")
```

## Arguments

rast	SpatRaster. Raster representing lines all values > 0 are assumed to be lines
method	character. Method of building lines. Options are "mst" (default) or "nearest". See Details below.

## Details

For method = "nearest" raster is first converted to points and then lines are drawn between the nearest points. If there are two different ways to connect the points that have the same distance both are kept which can cause doubled lines. **USE WITH CAUTION.** method = "mst" converts the raster to points, reclassifies the raster so roads are 0 and other cells are 1 and then uses projectRoads to connect all the points with a minimum spanning tree. This will always connect all raster cells and is slower but will not double lines as often. Neither method is likely to work for very large rasters

## Value

an sf simple feature collection

**Examples**

```

CLUSEXample <- prepExData(CLUSEXample)
# works well for very simple roads
roadLine1 <- rasterToLineSegments(CLUSEXample$roads)

# longer running more realistic examples

demoScen <- prepExData(demoScen)
# mst method works well in this case
roadLine2 <- rasterToLineSegments(demoScen[[1]]$road.rast)

# nearest method has doubled line where the two roads meet
roadLine3 <- rasterToLineSegments(demoScen[[1]]$road.rast, method = "nearest")

# The mst method can also produce odd results in some cases
roadLine4 <- rasterToLineSegments(demoScen[[4]]$road.rast)

```

---

simpleCostFn

*Simple cost edge weight function*


---

**Description**

Calculates the weight of an edge between two nodes as the mean value of an input cost raster at each of those nodes (x1 and x2).

**Usage**

```
simpleCostFn(x1, x2, hdistance)
```

**Arguments**

x1, x2	Number. Value of the input cost raster at two nodes.
hdistance	Number. Horizontal distance between the nodes - for penalizing longer diagonal edges.

**Examples**

```
simpleCostFn(0.5, 0.7, 1)
```

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