

# Package ‘anipaths’

May 17, 2021

**Type** Package

**Title** Animation of Multiple Trajectories with Uncertainty

**Version** 0.10.1

**Date** 2021-05-14

**Maintainer** Henry Scharf <hscharf@sdsu.edu>

**Description** Animation of observed trajectories using spline-based interpolation (see for example, Buderman, F. E., Hooten, M. B., Ivan, J. S. and Shenk, T. M. (2016), <doi:10.1111/2041-210X.12465> ``A functional model for characterizing long-distance movement behaviour". Methods Ecol Evol). Intended to be used exploratory data analysis, and perhaps for preparation of presentations.

**License** GPL-3

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.1

**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**Imports** animation, RColorBrewer, scales, sp, raster, mgcv, grDevices, ggmap, crawl, dplyr, ellipse, ggplot2, igraph, lubridate, magrittr, stringr, tidyr, tidyselect

**Suggests** knitr, rgdal, rmarkdown, testthat

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**LazyData** true

**Encoding** UTF-8

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Henry Scharf [aut, cre],  
Kristine Dinh [aut]

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2021-05-17 16:40:16 UTC

## R topics documented:

animate_paths . . . . .	2
covariate_interp . . . . .	8

gam_interp . . . . .	8
network_interp . . . . .	9
paths_gam_interp . . . . .	10
plot.paths_animation . . . . .	10
vultures . . . . .	11

<b>Index</b>	<b>13</b>
--------------	-----------

---

animate_paths	<i>animate paths</i>
---------------	----------------------

---

## Description

Animates telemetry data for the purposed of EDA using smoothing splines to interpolate the observed locations. The animations are particularly useful when examining multiple simultaneous trajectories. The output of the call to `animate_paths()` should bring up a browser window that shows the animation. Additionally, the images generated in `images/` (or else the value set for `imgdir`) may be used with `ffmpeg`, `latex`, or other presentation software that can build animations directly from a sequence of images.

## Usage

```
animate_paths(
  paths,
  coord = c("x", "y"),
  Time.name = "time",
  background = NULL,
  bg.axes = TRUE,
  bg.misc = NULL,
  bg.opts = NULL,
  blur.size = 8,
  covariate = NULL,
  covariate.colors = c("black", "white"),
  covariate.legend.loc = "bottomright",
  covariate.thresh = NULL,
  crawl.mu.color = "black",
  crawl.plot.type = "point.tail",
  date.col = "black",
  delta.t = NULL,
  dev.opts = list(),
  dimmed = NULL,
  ID.name = NULL,
  interpolation_type = "gam",
  interval = 1/12,
  legend.loc = "topright",
  main = NULL,
  max_refit_attempts = 10,
  method = "html",
```

```

n.frames = NULL,
network = NULL,
network.colors = NULL,
network.thresh = 0.5,
network.times = NULL,
network.ring.trans = 1,
network.ring.wt = 3,
network.segment.trans = 0.5,
network.segment.wt = 3,
override = FALSE,
par.opts = list(),
paths.proj = "+proj=longlat",
paths.transform.crs = "+proj=aea",
plot.date = TRUE,
pt.alpha = 0.4,
pt.cex = 1,
pt.colors = NULL,
pt.wd = 1,
res = 1.5,
return.paths = FALSE,
s_args = NULL,
simulation = FALSE,
simulation.iter = 12,
tail.alpha = 0.6,
tail.colors = "gray87",
tail.length = 5,
tail.wd = 1,
theme_map = NULL,
times = NULL,
uncertainty.level = NA,
whole.path = FALSE,
xlim = NULL,
ylim = NULL,
...
)

```

## Arguments

paths	Either a data.frame with longitudes/eastings, latitudes/northings, IDs, and times (see coord, ID.name, and Time.name), a SpatialPointsDataFrame with IDs and times, or a list of data.frames containing the longitudes, latitudes, and times for each individual (with names provided). If all paths are already synchronous, another option for passing the data is to define paths as a list of matrices, all with the same number of rows, and to specify the times separately via the next argument. This situation might arise when, for example, locations the user wishes to animated correspond to realizations/sampler from a discrete-time movement model. Covariates may be provided as named columns of the matrices in paths.
coord	A character vector of length 2 giving the names of the longitude/easting and lati-

	tude/northing columns in the paths data.frame (in that order). This is required if paths is not a SpatialPointsDataFrame.
Time.name	The name of the columns in paths giving the observation times. This column must be of class POSIXt, or numeric.
background	Three possibilities: (1) A single background image over which animation will be overlaid, or a list/stack of images/rasters corresponding to each frame. (2) A list with values center (long/lat), zoom, and maptype (see ggmap::get_googlemap()) which will be used to generate a background for the animation based on Google maps tiles. Additional arguments may be added which will be passed to ggmap::get_googlemap(). (3) A logical value of TRUE, which will cue the function to get the best Google Map tile combination it can come up with. Note: ggmap must be installed for (2) and (3). Note: if you are calling animate_paths() several times in a short period of time you may get an error from Google for trying to pull tiles too often (e.g., Error in download.file(url, destfile = tmp, quiet = !messaging, mode = "wb") : cannot open URL 'http://maps.googleapis...'). Waiting a minute or so usually solves this.
bg.axes	logical: should animation place axis labels when using a background image (default is TRUE). If RGoogleMaps is used to produce background, labels will be "northing" and "easting". Otherwise, the strings given to coord will be used.
bg.misc	Character string which will be executed as R code after generating the background, and before adding trajectories, etc.
bg.opts	Options passed to plot() function call that makes background in each frame. For example, this could be used to specify blue ocean and gray landcover if background is a SpatialPolygonsDataFrame and bg.opts = list(bg = "dodgerblue4", col = "gray", border = "gray").
blur.size	a integer of the size for blur points; default is 8
covariate	The name of the column in paths that identifies the covariate to be mapped to a ring of color around each point.
covariate.colors	vector of colors which will be used in their given order to make a color ramp (see colorRamp())
covariate.legend.loc	either the location of the covariate legend, or NA if no legend is desired
covariate.thresh	if changed from its default value of NULL, the interpolated value of the covariate will be binarized based on this numeric value.
crawl.mu.color	color for the main predictions for crawl interpolation; default is black
crawl.plot.type	a character string of what type of the plot you wish to generate when interpolation_type = "crawl". Default is "point.tail" for points with tails; input "point" for point plot and input "blur" for blur point plot; ; input "blur.point" for blur point with tails.
date.col	default is "black"
delta.t	The gap in time between each frame in the animation. Specify one of delta.t or n.frames. If both are specified, delta.t is used.

dev.opts	Options passed to png() before creating each frame.
dimmed	Numeric vector of individuals to "dim" in the animation. Order corresponds to the order of the ID.name variable, or order of paths list.
ID.name	The name of the column in paths that identifies each individual. If left as NULL (default), a single individual is assumed.
interpolation_type	a character string of the type of interpolation. Default is "gam" for a generalized additive model. Use "crawl" to interpolate using crawl package. Note: due to the ongoing shift in PROJ4/6 standards, warning about CRS comments may appear.
interval	Seconds per frame in animation. Default is 1/12 (or 12 frames per second).
legend.loc	passed to first argument of legend() function. Default is "topright". NA removes legend.
main	Title for each frame.
max_refit_attempts	an integer of number of resampling when the fit for crawl failed to run; default is 10
method	either "html" (default) or "mp4". The latter requires the user has installed ffmpeg (see ?animation::saveVideo()).
n.frames	The number of frames used to animate the complete time domain of the data.
network	Array of dimensions (# individuals, # individuals, n.frames) that gives a dynamic network structure among the individuals.
network.colors	A symmetric matrix of dimension length(paths) × length(paths) giving the colors associated with each pairwise relationship.
network.thresh	Network structure is summarized in the animation in a binary way, regardless of whether or not the network is continuously weighted or not. The value of network.thresh determines the level below which no connection is shown, and above which an active connection is shown via colored rings and connecting segments.
network.times	Numeric vector. If network time grid doesn't match n.frames, supply the times at which the network has been evaluated so it can be interpolated using smoothing splines.
network.ring.trans	transparency of network segments (default is 1)
network.ring.wt	thickness of network rings (default is 3)
network.segment.trans	transparency of network segments (default is 0.5)
network.segment.wt	thickness of network segments (default is 3)
override	Logical variable toggling where or not to override warnings about how long the animation procedure will take.
par.opts	Options passed to par() before creating each frame.

<code>paths.proj</code>	PROJ.4 string corresponding to the projection of the data. Default is "+proj=longlat".
<code>paths.transform.crs</code>	a character string of CRS coordinate projection transformation based on the animals' location; default is "+proj=aea +lat_1=30 +lat_2=70".
<code>plot.date</code>	Logical variable toggling date text at the time center of the animation.
<code>pt.alpha</code>	alpha value for the points
<code>pt.cex</code>	A numeric value giving the character expansion (size) of the points for each individual. Default is 1.
<code>pt.colors</code>	A vector of colors to be used for each individual in the animation. Default values come from Color Brewer palettes. When a network is provided, this is ignored and individuals are all colored black. If NA, no plot colors are chosen to distinguish individuals. This can be useful when making animations involving a covariate. Consider also setting <code>legend.loc</code> to NA in this case.
<code>pt.wd</code>	size of the points; default is 1
<code>res</code>	Resolution of images in animation. Increase this for higher quality (and larger) images.
<code>return.paths</code>	logical. Default is FALSE, but if TRUE then the interpolated paths are returned and no animation is produced.
<code>s_args</code>	Arguments to <code>mgcv::s()</code> for GAM-based interpolation can be passed using a named list/vector.
<code>simulation</code>	logical. Generate simulation predictions to have multiple projects for the animal paths; default is FALSE.
<code>simulation.iter</code>	an integer of how many paths the crawl model will generate; default is 5.
<code>tail.alpha</code>	alpha value for the tails
<code>tail.colors</code>	default is "gray87". Can be single color or vector of colors.
<code>tail.length</code>	Length of the tail trailing each individual.
<code>tail.wd</code>	Thickness of tail trailing behind each individual. Default is 1.
<code>theme_map</code>	plot theme for ggplot, default is NULL
<code>times</code>	If all paths are already synchronous, another option for passing the data is to define paths as a list of matrices, all with the same number of rows, and to specify the times separately via this argument.
<code>uncertainty.level</code>	value in (0, 1) corresponding to level at which to draw uncertainty ellipses. NA (default) results in no ellipses.
<code>whole.path</code>	logical. If TRUE (default = FALSE), the complete interpolated trajectories will be plotted in the background of the animation. If <code>whole.path = TRUE</code> , consider also setting <code>tail.length = 0</code> .
<code>xlim</code>	Boundaries for plotting. If left undefined, the range of the data will be used.
<code>ylim</code>	Boundaries for plotting. If left undefined, the range of the data will be used.
<code>...</code>	other arguments to be passed to <code>ani.options</code> to animation options such as the time interval between image frames.

**Value**

video file, possibly a directory containing the individual images, or interpolated paths.

**Examples**

```
##
vultures$POSIX <- as.POSIXct(vultures$timestamp, tz = "UTC")
vultures_paths <- vultures[vultures$POSIX > as.POSIXct("2009-03-01", origin = "1970-01-01") &
  vultures$POSIX < as.POSIXct("2009-05-01", origin = "1970-01-01"), ]
animate_paths(
  paths = vultures_paths,
  delta.t = "week",
  coord = c("location.long", "location.lat"),
  Time.name = "POSIX",
  ID.name = "individual.local.identifier"
)
## Not run:
background <- list(
  center = c(-90, 10),
  zoom = 3,
  maptype = "satellite"
)
library(ggmap)
library(RColorBrewer)
COVARIATE <- cos(as.numeric(vultures_paths$timestamp) /
  diff(range(as.numeric(vultures_paths$timestamp))) * 4 * pi)
animate_paths(
  paths = cbind(vultures_paths, COVARIATE),
  delta.t = "week",
  coord = c("location.long", "location.lat"),
  Time.name = "POSIX", covariate = "COVARIATE",
  covariate.colors = brewer.pal(n = 9, "RdYlGn"),
  ID.name = "individual.local.identifier",
  background = background
)

# animation using crawl interpolation
library(rgdal)
animate_paths(
  paths = vultures_paths,
  delta.t = "week",
  coord = c("location.long", "location.lat"),
  Time.name = "POSIX",
  ID.name = "individual.local.identifier",
  interpolation_type = "crawl"
)

## End(Not run)

# Run to remove files generated by this function
system("rm -r js; rm -r css; rm -r images; rm index.html")
```

---

covariate_interp	<i>Synchronous interpolation of covariate using either GAM (same as paths) or piece-wise constant if covariate is a factor</i>
------------------	--

---

### Description

Synchronous interpolation of covariate using either GAM (same as paths) or piece-wise constant if covariate is a factor

### Usage

```
covariate_interp(paths, covariate = NULL, Time.name, time.grid, s_args)
```

### Arguments

paths	lists of data.frames containing positions, times, and covariate for each individual
covariate	character string giving name of covariate variable in data.frames
Time.name	character string giving name of time variable in data.frames
time.grid	grid of possible times to use for interpolation (individuals will only be interpolated to times within the range of observation times)
s_args	arguments to mgcv::s() for GAM interpolation method

### Value

list of interpolated covariate by individual

---

gam_interp	<i>GAM interpolation using mgcv:gam().</i>
------------	--

---

### Description

GAM interpolation using mgcv:gam().

### Usage

```
gam_interp(formula = NULL, y, time, pred_times, se.fit = T, s_args = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

formula	optionally specify formula for mgcv::gam() using y as response and time as predictor.
y	observations
time	times for observations
pred_times	prediction times
se.fit	logical default is TRUE; should standard pointwise errors be computed for interpolation
s_args	Arguments to mgcv::s() can be passed using a named list/vector.

**Value**

interpolated values

---

network_interp	<i>Synchronous interpolation of network using piece-wise constant interpolation</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

Synchronous interpolation of network using piece-wise constant interpolation

**Usage**

```
network_interp(network = NULL, network.times, time.grid)
```

**Arguments**

network	array of network observations of dimension (n.indiv, n.indiv, length(network.times))
network.times	vector of times at which network observations are made
time.grid	times at which network will be interpolated

**Value**

array of dimension n.indiv, n.indiv, length(time.grid))

---

paths\_gam\_interp      *Synchronous GAM interpolation of all paths*

---

### Description

Synchronous GAM interpolation of all paths

### Usage

```
paths_gam_interp(paths, coord, Time.name, time.grid, s_args = NULL)
```

### Arguments

paths	lists of data.frames containing positions, times, and covariate for each individual
coord	two-vector of character strings giving names of x and y coordinates in data.frames
Time.name	character string giving name of time variable in data.frames
time.grid	grid of possible times to use for interpolation (individuals will only be interpolated to times within the range of observation times)
s_args	Arguments to mgcv::s() can be passed using a named list/vector.

### Value

list of interpolated paths by individual

---

plot.paths\_animation      *Plot animation path interpolation*

---

### Description

This is mainly intended as a way to check that the interpolations used in the animation are working as expected.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'paths_animation'
plot(x, ..., i = 1, level = 0.05, type = "path", ylim_x = NULL, ylim_y = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

x	paths_animation object as created through a call to animate_paths().
...	additional arguments passed to plot.
i	index of individual to plot (corresponds to index in unique(paths[, 'ID.name'])).
level	confidence level for error bands. NA removes bands.
type	either "path" (default) for two marginal interpolation plots, or "covariate" for a single interpolation plot
ylim_x	y-axis limits for marginal plots (x, easting, etc.)
ylim_y	y-axis limits for marginal plots (y, northing, etc.)

**Examples**

```
vultures$POSIX <- as.POSIXct(vultures$timestamp, tz = "UTC")
vultures_paths <- vultures[vultures$POSIX > as.POSIXct("2009-03-22", origin = "1970-01-01") &
  vultures$POSIX < as.POSIXct("2009-04-05", origin = "1970-01-01"), ]
interpolated_paths <-
  animate_paths(
    paths = vultures_paths,
    delta.t = 3600 * 6,
    coord = c("location.long", "location.lat"),
    Time.name = "POSIX",
    ID.name = "individual.local.identifier",
    max.knots = 13,
    return.paths = TRUE
  )
interpolated_paths_gp <-
  animate_paths(
    paths = vultures_paths,
    delta.t = 3600 * 6,
    coord = c("location.long", "location.lat"),
    Time.name = "POSIX",
    ID.name = "individual.local.identifier",
    max.knots = 3 * 13,
    return.paths = TRUE
  )
plot(interpolated_paths, i = 2)
plot(interpolated_paths_gp, i = 2, level = 0.01)
```

---

vultures

*GPS locations of turkey vultures.*


---

**Description**

A dataset containing a subset of the locations of turkey vultures (2003–2006), with time stamps, from:

**Usage**

vultures

**Format**

A data frame with 215719 rows and 11 variables:

**timestamp** time of observation

**location.long** logitude

**location.lat** latitude

**individual.local.identifier** identifier for each individual ...

**Details**

Dodge S, Bohrer G, Bildstein K, Davidson SC, Weinzierl R, Mechard MJ, Barber D, Kays R, Brandes D, Han J (2014) Environmental drivers of variability in the movement ecology of turkey vultures (*Cathartes aura*) in North and South America. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 20130195. doi:10.1098/rstb.2013.0195

Bildstein K, Barber D, Bechard MJ (2014) Data from: Environmental drivers of variability in the movement ecology of turkey vultures (*Cathartes aura*) in North and South America. Movebank Data Repository. doi:10.5441/001/1.46ft1k05

**Source**

<https://www.datarepository.movebank.org/handle/10255/move.362/> Bildstein K, Barber D, Bechard MJ (2014) Data from: Environmental drivers of variability in the movement ecology of turkey vultures (*Cathartes aura*) in North and South America. Movebank Data Repository. doi:10.5441/001/1.46ft1k05

# Index

\* **datasets**

vultures, [11](#)

animate\_paths, [2](#)

covariate\_interp, [8](#)

gam\_interp, [8](#)

network\_interp, [9](#)

paths\_gam\_interp, [10](#)

plot.paths\_animation, [10](#)

vultures, [11](#)