

# Package ‘RSAGA’

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**Type** Package

**Title** SAGA Geoprocessing and Terrain Analysis

**Version** 1.4.2

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**Description** Provides access to geocomputing and terrain analysis functions of the geographical information system (GIS) 'SAGA' (System for Automated Geoscientific Analyses) from within R by running the command line version of SAGA. This package furthermore provides several R functions for handling ASCII grids, including a flexible framework for applying local functions (including predict methods of fitted models) and focal functions to multiple grids. SAGA GIS is available under GPL-2 / LGPL-2 licences from <https://sourceforge.net/projects/saga-gis/>.

**License** GPL-2 | file LICENSE

**URL** <https://github.com/r-spatial/RSAGA>

**Depends** gstat, plyr, R (>= 3.5), shapefiles

**Imports** magrittr, stats, stringr, utils

**Suggests** gam, knitr, rmarkdown, sf, testthat, tibble

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**LazyLoad** yes

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**SystemRequirements** SAGA GIS (2.3 LTS - 9.7.2)

**Collate** 'gridtools.R' 'RSAGA-core.R' 'RSAGA-modules.R' 'RSAGA-utils.R' 'RSAGA-package.R' 'landslides.R' 'dem.R' 'study\_area.R'

**NeedsCompilation** no

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## Contents

RSAGA-package	3
centervalue	4
create.variable.name	5
dem	5
focal.function	7
grid.predict	10
grid.to.xyz	13
landslides	14
match.arg.ext	15
multi.focal.function	17
pick.from.points	21
read.ascii.grid	27
relative.position	30
resid.median	31
rsaga.add.grid.values.to.points	32
rsaga.close.gaps	33
rsaga.contour	34
rsaga.copy.sgrd	35
rsaga.env	36
rsaga.esri.to.sgrd	39
rsaga.esri.wrapper	40
rsaga.fill.sinks	42
rsaga.filter.gauss	44
rsaga.filter.simple	45
rsaga.geoprocessor	46
rsaga.get.modules	49
rsaga.get.modules.path	51
rsaga.get.usage	52
rsaga.get.version	53
rsaga.grid.calculus	54
rsaga.grid.to.points	56
rsaga.hillshade	57
rsaga.html.help	59
rsaga.import.gdal	60
rsaga.insolation	61
rsaga.intersect.polygons	63
rsaga.inverse.distance	64
rsaga.lib.prefix	67

rsaga.local.morphometry . . . . .	68
rsaga.parallel.processing . . . . .	70
rsaga.pisr . . . . .	73
rsaga.pisr2 . . . . .	76
rsaga.set.env . . . . .	80
rsaga.sgrd.to.esri . . . . .	81
rsaga.sink.removal . . . . .	82
rsaga.sink.route . . . . .	83
rsaga.slope.asp.curv . . . . .	84
rsaga.solar.radiation . . . . .	87
rsaga.target . . . . .	90
rsaga.topdown.processing . . . . .	91
rsaga.union.polygons . . . . .	94
rsaga.wetness.index . . . . .	95
set.file.extension . . . . .	97
study_area . . . . .	98
wind.shelter . . . . .	99

**Index****101**

RSAGA-package

*RSAGA: SAGA Geoprocessing and Terrain Analysis in R***Description**

RSAGA provides direct access to SAGA GIS functions including, for example, a comprehensive set of terrain analysis algorithms for calculating local morphometric properties (slope, aspect, curvature), hydrographic characteristics (size, height, and aspect of catchment areas), and other process-related terrain attributes (potential incoming solar radiation, topographic wetness index, and more). In addition, (R)SAGA provides functions for importing and exporting different grid file formats, and tools for preprocessing grids, e.g. closing gaps or filling sinks.

**Details**

RSAGA adds a framework for creating custom-defined focal functions, e.g. specialized filter and terrain attributes such as the topographic wind shelter index, within R. This framework can be used to apply predict methods of fitted statistical models to stacks of grids representing predictor variables. Furthermore, functions are provided for conveniently picking values at point locations from a grid using kriging or nearest neighbour interpolation.

RSAGA requires SAGA GIS (versions 2.3.1 LTS - 9.7.2) are currently supported) and its user-contributed modules to be available on your computer. These can be downloaded under GPL from <https://sourceforge.net/projects/saga-gis/>. Please check the help page for `rsaga.env()` to make sure that RSAGA can find your local installation of SAGA. You may need to 'tell' RSAGA where to find SAGA GIS.

Thanks to Olaf Conrad, Andre Ringeler and all the other SAGA GIS developers and contributors of this excellent geocomputing tool! Thanks to Rainer Hurling, Johan van de Wauw, Massimo Di Stefano and others for helping to adapt SAGA to and test it on unix and Max OSX.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning, Donovan Bangs and Marc Becker

**References**

Brenning, A., 2008. Statistical geocomputing combining R and SAGA: The example of landslide susceptibility analysis with generalized additive models. In J. Boehner, T. Blaschke and L. Montanarella (eds.), *SAGA - Seconds Out (= Hamburger Beitrage zur Physischen Geographie und Landschaftsoekologie*, vol. 19), p. 23-32.

Conrad, O., Bechtel, M., Bock, M., Dietrich, H., Fischer, E., Gerlitz, L., Wichmann, V., & Boehner, J. (2015). System for Automated Geoscientific Analyses (SAGA) v. 2.1.4. *Geoscientific Model Development*, 8, 1991-2007

**See Also**

Useful links:

- <https://github.com/r-spatial/RSAGA>

---

centervalue

*Pick Center Value from Matrix*

---

**Description**

Pick the value in the center of a square matrix. Auxiliary function to be used by functions called by [focal.function\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
centervalue(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    a square matrix

**Details**

See for example the code of [resid.median\(\)](#). Intended for use with square moving window matrices with an odd number of columns and rows.

**Value**

value of the matrix entry in the middle of the matrix

**See Also**

[focal.function\(\)](#), [resid.median\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
( m <- matrix( round(runif(9,1,10)), ncol=3 ) )
centervalue(m)
```

---

```
create.variable.name Convert file name to variable name
```

---

**Description**

Convert a file name into a variable name

**Usage**

```
create.variable.name(filename, prefix = NULL, fsep = .Platform$file.sep)
```

**Arguments**

filename	character string
prefix	character string: optional prefix to be added
fsep	character used to separate path components

**Value**

character string: a variable name, see example below

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
create.variable.name("C:/my-path/my-file-name.Rd", prefix="res")
# Result: "res.my.file.name"

## End(Not run)
```

---

```
dem DEM for the landslides dataset
```

---

**Description**

Digital elevation model (DEM) for the landslides dataset's study area in southern Ecuador

**Usage**

```
dem
```

## Format

Digital elevation model given as a list consisting of the elements header (nine properties) and data (grid elevation values in m a.s.l.). The 10 m x 10 m digital elevation model was triangulated from aerial imagery as described by Jordan *et al.* (2005) and provided as a courtesy of Lars Ungerechts (2010).

## Details

Landslide data provided here are a subset of that used by Muenchow *et al.* (2012) to predict spatially landslide susceptibility using generalized additive models (GAMs). Specifically, the here provided landslides belong to the "natural" part of the *RBSF* area. Please refer also to the accompanying vignette for an introductory tutorial on the use of the RSAGA package for terrain analysis, geoprocessing, and model-building using these data.

## Note

Loading landslides replaces any existing objects in the current work environment named dem, landslides, and study\_area.

## Source

Ungerechts, L. (2010): DEM 10m (triangulated from aerial photo - b/w). Retrieved from <http://vhrz669.hrz.uni-marbur>

Jordan, E., Ungerechts, L., Caceres, B. Penafiel, A. and Francou, B. (2005): Estimation by photogrammetry of the glacier recession on the Cotopaxi Volcano (Ecuador) between 1956 and 1997. *Hydrological Sciences* 50, 949-961.

## See Also

[landslides](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
library("RSAGA")
data(dem)

# Print the DEM header:
dem$header

# Write the DEM to a SAGA grid:
write.sgrd(data = dem, file = "dem", header = dem$header, env = env)

# Calculate slope of DEM:
rsaga.slope(in.dem = "dem", out.slope = "slope", method = "poly2zevenbergen")

## End(Not run)
```

---

focal.function                      *Local and Focal Grid Functions*

---

### Description

focal.function cuts out square or circular moving windows from a grid (matrix) and applies a user-defined matrix function to calculate e.g. a terrain attribute or filter the grid. The function is suitable for large grid files as it can process them row by row. local.function represents the special case of a moving window of radius 1. Users can define their own functions operating on moving windows, or use simple functions such as median to define filters.

### Usage

```
focal.function(  
  in.grid,  
  in.factor.grid,  
  out.grid.prefix,  
  path = NULL,  
  in.path = path,  
  out.path = path,  
  fun,  
  varnames,  
  radius = 0,  
  is.pixel.radius = TRUE,  
  na.strings = "NA",  
  valid.range = c(-Inf, Inf),  
  nodata.values = c(),  
  out.nodata.value,  
  search.mode = c("circle", "square"),  
  digits = 4,  
  hdr.digits = 10,  
  dec = ".",  
  quiet = TRUE,  
  nlines = Inf,  
  mw.to.vector = FALSE,  
  mw.na.rm = FALSE,  
  ...  
)  
  
gapply(in.grid, fun, varnames, mw.to.vector = TRUE, mw.na.rm = TRUE, ...)  
  
local.function(...)
```

### Arguments

in.grid                      file name of input ASCII grid, relative to in.path

<code>in.factor.grid</code>	optional file name giving a gridded categorical variables defining zones; zone boundaries are used as breaklines for the moving window (see Details)
<code>out.grid.prefix</code>	character string (optional), defining a file name prefix to be used for the output file names; a dash (-) will separate the prefix and the varnames
<code>path</code>	path in which to look for <code>in.grid</code> and write output grid files; see also <code>in.path</code> and <code>out.path</code> , which overwrite <code>path</code> if they are specified
<code>in.path</code>	path in which to look for <code>in.grid</code> (defaults to <code>path</code> )
<code>out.path</code>	path in which to write output grid files; defaults to <code>path</code>
<code>fun</code>	a function, or name of a function, to be applied on the moving window; see Details
<code>varnames</code>	character vector specifying the names of the variable(s) returned by <code>fun</code> ; if missing, <code>focal.function</code> will try to determine the varnames from <code>fun</code> itself, or from a call to <code>fun</code> if this is a function (see Details)
<code>radius</code>	numeric value specifying the (circular or square) radius of the moving window; see <code>is.pixel.radius</code> and <code>search.mode</code> ; note that all data within distance $\leq$ radius will be included in the moving window, not $<$ radius.
<code>is.pixel.radius</code>	logical: if TRUE (default), the radius will be interpreted as a (possibly non-integer) number of pixels; if FALSE, it is interpreted as a radius measured in the grid (map) units.
<code>na.strings</code>	passed on to <code>scan()</code>
<code>valid.range</code>	numeric vector of length 2, specifying minimum and maximum valid values read from input file; all values $<$ valid.range[1] or $>$ valid.range[1] will be converted to NA.
<code>nodata.values</code>	numeric vector: any values from the input grid file that should be converted to NA, in addition to the nodata value specified in the grid header
<code>out.nodata.value</code>	numeric: value used for storing NAs in the output file(s); if missing, use the same nodata value as specified in the header of the input grid file
<code>search.mode</code>	character, either "circle" (default) for a circular search window, or "square" for a squared one.
<code>digits</code>	numeric, specifying the number of digits to be used for output grid file.
<code>hdr.digits</code>	numeric, specifying the number of digits to be used for the header of the output grid file (default: 10; see <code>write.ascii.grid.header()</code> ).
<code>dec</code>	character, specifying the decimal mark to be used for input and output.
<code>quiet</code>	If TRUE, gives some output ("*") after every 10th line of the grid file and when the job is done.
<code>nlines</code>	Number of lines to be processed; useful for testing purposes.
<code>mw.to.vector</code>	logical: Should the content of the moving window be coerced (from a matrix) to a vector?
<code>mw.na.rm</code>	logical: Should NAs be removed from moving window prior to passing the data to <code>fun</code> ? Only applicable when <code>mw.to.vector=TRUE</code> .
<code>...</code>	Arguments to be passed to <code>fun</code> ; <code>local.function</code> : arguments to be passed to <code>focal.function</code> .



## Details

`focal.function` passes a square matrix of size  $2 \times \text{radius} + 1$  to the function `fun` if `mw.to.vector=FALSE` (default), or a vector of length  $\leq (2 \times \text{radius} + 1)^2$  if `mw.to.vector=TRUE`. This matrix or vector will contain the content of the moving window, which may possibly contain NAs even if the `in.grid` has no nodata values, e.g. due to edge effects. If `search.mode="circle"`, values more than `radius` units (pixels or grid units, depending on `is.pixel.radius`) away from the center pixel / matrix entry will be set to NA. In addition, `valid.range`, `nodata.values`, and the nodata values specified in the `in.grid` are checked to assign further NAs to pixels in the moving window. Finally, if `in.factor.grid` specifies zones, all pixels in the moving window that belong to a different zone than the center pixel are set to NA, or, in other words, zone boundaries are used as breaklines.

The function `fun` should return a single numeric value or a numeric vector. As an example, the function `resid.minmedmax()` returns the minimum, median and maximum of the difference between the values in the moving window and the value in the center grid cell. In addition to the (first) argument receiving the moving window data, `fun` may have additional arguments; the ... argument of `focal.function` is passed on to `fun`. `resid.quantile()` is a function that uses this feature.

Optionally, `fun` should support the following feature: If no argument is passed to it, then it should return a character vector giving variable names to be used for naming the output grids. The call `resid.minmedmax()`, for example, returns `c("rmin", "rmed", "rmax")`; this vector must have the same length as the numeric vector returned when moving window data is passed to the function. This feature is only used if no `varnames` argument is provided. Note that the result is currently being `abbreviate()`d to a length of 6 characters.

Input and output file names are built according to the following schemes:

Input: [`<in.path>/`]`<in.grid>`

Zones: [`<in.path>/`]`<in.factor.grid>` (if specified)

Output: [`<out.path>/`]`<out.grid.prefix>-``<varnames>.asc`

For the input files, `.asc` is used as the default file extension, if it is not specified by the user.

## Value

`focal.function` and `local.function` return the character vector of output file names.

## Note

These functions are not very efficient ways of calculating e.g. (focal) terrain attributes compared to for example the SAGA modules, but the idea is that you can easily specify your own functions without starting to mess around with C code. For example try implementing a median filter as a SAGA module... or just use the code shown in the example!

## Author(s)

Alexander Brenning

## References

Brenning, A. (2008): Statistical geocomputing combining R and SAGA: The example of landslide susceptibility analysis with generalized additive models. In: J. Boehner, T. Blaschke, L. Montanarella (eds.), SAGA - Seconds Out (= Hamburger Beitrage zur Physischen Geographie und Landschaftsoekologie, 19), 23-32.

## See Also

[multi.focal.function\(\)](#), [multi.local.function\(\)](#), [resid.median\(\)](#), [resid.minmedmax\(\)](#), [relative.position\(\)](#), [resid.quantile\(\)](#), [resid.quantiles\(\)](#), [relative.rank\(\)](#), [wind.shelter\(\)](#), [create.variable.name\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# A simple median filter applied to dem.asc:
gapply("dem", "median", radius=3)
# Same:
#focal.function("dem", fun="median", radius=3, mw.to.vector=TRUE, mw.na.rm=TRUE)
# See how the filter has changed the elevation data:
d1 = as.vector(read.ascii.grid("dem")$data)
d2 = as.vector(read.ascii.grid("median")$data)
hist(d1-d2, br=50)

## End(Not run)
# Wind shelter index used by Plattner et al. (2004):
## Not run:
ctrl = wind.shelter.prep(6, -pi/4, pi/12, 10)
focal.function("dem", fun=wind.shelter, control=ctrl,
              radius=6, search.mode="circle")

## End(Not run)
# Or how about this, if "aspect" is local terrain exposure:
## Not run:
gapply("aspect", "cos") # how "northerly-exposed" is a pixel?
gapply("aspect", "sin") # how "easterly-exposed" is a pixel?
# Same result, but faster:
focal.function("aspect", fun=function(x) c(cos(x), sin(x)), varnames=c("cos", "sin"))

## End(Not run)
```

---

grid.predict

*Helper function for applying predict methods to stacks of grids.*

---

## Description

This function can be used to apply the predict method of hopefully any fitted predictive model pixel by pixel to a stack of grids representing the explanatory variables. It is intended to be called primarily by [multi.local.function\(\)](#) or [multi.focal.function\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
grid.predict(
  fit,
  predfun,
  trafo,
  control.predict,
  predict.column,
  trace = 0,
  location,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

fit	a model object for which prediction is desired
predfun	optional prediction function; if missing, the fit's <code>predict()</code> method is called. In some cases it may be convenient to define a wrapper function for the predict method that may be passed as <code>predfun</code> argument.
trafo	an optional function(x) that takes a <code>data.frame</code> x and returns a <code>data.frame</code> with the same number of rows; this is intended to perform transformations on the input variables, e.g. derive a log-transformed variable from the raw input read from the grids, or more complex variables such as the NDVI etc.; the <code>data.frame</code> resulting from a call to <code>trafo</code> (if provided) is passed to <code>predfun</code>
control.predict	an optional list of arguments to be passed on to <code>predfun</code> ; this may be e.g. <code>type="response"</code> to obtain probability prediction maps from a logistic regression model
predict.column	optional character string: Some predict methods (e.g. <code>predict.lda</code> ) return a <code>data.frame</code> with several columns, e.g. one column per class in a classification problem. <code>predict.column</code> is used to pick the one that is of interest
trace	integer $\geq 0$ : positive values give more ( $=2$ ) or less ( $=1$ ) information on predictor variables and predictions
location	optional location data received from <code>multi.focal.function</code> ; is added to the <code>newdata</code> object that is passed on to <code>predfun</code> .
...	these arguments are provided by the calling function, usually <code>multi.local.function()</code> or <code>multi.focal.function()</code> . They contain the explanatory (predictor) variables required by the fit model.

**Details**

`grid.predict` is a simple wrapper function. First it binds the arguments in `\dots` together in a `data.frame` with the raw predictor variables that have been read from their grids by the caller, `multi.local.function()` (or `multi.focal.function()`). Then it calls the optional `trafo` function to transform or combine predictor variables (e.g. perform log transformations, ratioing, arithmetic operations such as calculating the NDVI). Finally the `predfun` (or, typically, the default `predict()` method of `fit`) is called, handing over the `fit`, the predictor `data.frame`, and the optional `control.predict` arguments.

**Value**

grid.predict returns the result of the call to predfun or the default `predict()` method.

**Note**

Though grid.predict can in principle deal with predict methods returning factor variables, its usual caller `multi.local.function()` / `multi.focal.function()` cannot; classification models should be dealt with by setting a `type="prob"` (for rpart) or `type="response"` (for logistic regression and logistic additive model) argument, for example (see second Example below).

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning

**References**

Brenning, A. (2008): Statistical geocomputing combining R and SAGA: The example of landslide susceptibility analysis with generalized additive models. In: J. Boehner, T. Blaschke, L. Montanarella (eds.), SAGA - Seconds Out (= Hamburger Beitrage zur Physischen Geographie und Landschaftsoekologie, 19), 23-32.

**See Also**

`focal.function()`, `multi.local.function()`, `multi.focal.function()`

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# Assume that d is a data.frame with point observations
# of a numerical response variable y and predictor variables
# a, b, and c.
# Fit a generalized additive model to y,a,b,c.
# We want to model b and c as nonlinear terms:
require(gam)
fit <- gam(y ~ a + s(b) + s(c), data = d)
multi.local.function(in.grids = c("a", "b", "c"),
  out.varnames = "pred",
  fun = grid.predict, fit = fit )
# Note that the 'grid.predict' uses by default the
# predict method of 'fit'.
# Model predictions are written to a file named pred.asc

## End(Not run)

## Not run:
# A fake example of a logistic additive model:
require(gam)
fit <- gam(cl ~ a + s(b) + s(c), data = d, family = binomial)
multi.local.function(in.grids = c("a", "b", "c"),
  out.varnames = "pred",
  fun = grid.predict, fit = fit,
```

```

control.predict = list(type = "response" )
# 'control.predict' is passed on to 'grid.predict', which
# dumps its contents into the arguments for 'fit''s
# 'predict' method.
# Model predictions are written to a file named pred.asc

## End(Not run)

```

---

grid.to.xyz

*Convert Grid Matrix to (x,y,z) data.frame*


---

## Description

Convert a grid matrix to a (x,y,z) data.frame.

## Usage

```
grid.to.xyz(data, header, varname = "z", colnames = c("x", "y", varname))
```

## Arguments

data	grid data: either a grid data matrix, or a list with components data (a matrix with the grid data) and header (the grid header information); see <a href="#">read.ascii.grid()</a> for details
header	optional list giving grid header information; see <a href="#">read.ascii.grid()</a> for details
varname	character: name to be assigned to the column with the z values in the output data.frame
colnames	names to be given to the columns corresponding to the x and y coordinates and the grid variable in the output data.frame

## Value

a data.frame with three columns (names are specified in the colnames argument) giving the x and y coordinates and the attribute values at the locations given by the grid data.

## See Also

[read.ascii.grid\(\)](#), [pick.from.ascii.grid\(\)](#)

## Examples

```

## Not run:
d = read.ascii.grid("dem")
xyz = grid.to.xyz(d,varname="elevation")
str(xyz)

## End(Not run)

```

---

landslides

*Landslide inventory data*

---

### Description

Landslide data from southern Ecuador

Landslide data from southern Ecuador

### Usage

landslides

### Format

The landslide dataset consists of three objects: `landslides`, `dem`, and `study_area`.

- `landslides`: A data frame with 1535 rows and 3 variables representing landslide initiation points in the *Reserva Biologica San Francisco* (RBSF) area of the tropical Andes in Southern Ecuador. The variables are:
  - `lslpts`: Landslide initiation point (boolean)
  - `x` and `y`: Coordinates in UTM zone 17S (EPSG: 32717)

The landslide inventory was mapped by Stoyan (2000) in the field and by the presence of landslide scars in aerial imagery.

### Details

Landslide data provided here are a subset of that used by Muenchow *et al.* (2012) to predict spatially landslide susceptibility using generalized additive models (GAMs). Specifically, the here provided landslides belong to the "natural" part of the *RBSF* area. Please refer also to the accompanying vignette for an introductory tutorial on the use of the *RSAGA* package for terrain analysis, geoprocessing, and model-building using these data.

### Source

Muenchow, J., Brenning, A., Richter, R. (2012): Geomorphic process rates of landslides along a humidity gradient in the tropical Andes, *Geomorphology* 139-140, 271-284. DOI: 10.1016/j.geomorph.2011.10.029.

Stoyan, R. (2000): Aktivitaet, Ursachen und Klassifikation der Rutschungen in San Francisco/Suedecuador. Unpublished diploma thesis, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany.

### See Also

[dem](#), [study\\_area](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
library("RSAGA")
data(landslides)
data(dem)

# Print the DEM header:
dem$header

# Write the DEM to a SAGA grid:
write.sgrd(data = dem, file = "dem", header = dem$header, env = env)

# Calculate slope of DEM:
rsaga.slope(in.dem = "dem", out.slope = "slope", method = "poly2zevenbergen")

# Pick slope values at landslide points,
# added to landslides data.frame as variable "slope":
landslides <- pick.from.saga.grid(data = landslides,
                                filename = "slope",
                                varname = "slope")

## End(Not run)
```

---

match.arg.ext

*Extended Argument Matching*

---

## Description

match.arg.ext matches arg against a set of candidate values as specified by choices; it extends [match.arg\(\)](#) by allowing arg to be a numeric identifier of the choices.

## Usage

```
match.arg.ext(
  arg,
  choices,
  base = 1,
  several.ok = FALSE,
  numeric = FALSE,
  ignore.case = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

arg	a character string or numeric value
choices	a character vector of candidate values
base	numeric value, specifying the numeric index assigned to the first element of choices

several.ok	logical specifying if arg should be allowed to have more than one element
numeric	logical specifying if the function should return the numerical index (counting from base) of the matched argument, or, by default, its name
ignore.case	logical specifying if the matching should be case sensitive

### Details

When choices are missing, they are obtained from a default setting for the formal argument `arg` of the function from which `match.arg.ext` was called.

Matching is done using `pmatch()` (indirectly through a call to `match.arg()`, so `arg` may be abbreviated.

If `arg` is numeric, it may take values between `base` and `length(choices)+base-1`. `base=1` will give standard 1-based R indices, `base=0` will give indices counted from zero as used to identify SAGA modules in library RSAGA.

### Value

If `numeric` is false and `arg` is a character string, the function returns the unabbreviated version of the unique partial match of `arg` if there is one; otherwise, an error is produced if `several.ok` is false, as per default. When `several.ok` is true and there is more than one match, all unabbreviated versions of matches are returned.

If `numeric` is false but `arg` is numeric, `match.arg.ext` returns name of the match corresponding to this index, counting from `base`; i.e. `arg=base` corresponds to `choices[1]`.

If `numeric` is true, the function returns the numeric index(es) of the partial match of `arg`, counted from `base` to `length(choices)+base-1`. If `arg` is already numeric, the function only checks whether it falls into the valid range from `arg` to `length(choices)+base-1` and returns `arg`.

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning

### See Also

[match.arg\(\)](#), [pmatch\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
# Based on example from 'match.arg':
require(stats)
center <- function(x, type = c("mean", "median", "trimmed")) {
  type <- match.arg.ext(type,base=0)
  switch(type,
         mean = mean(x),
         median = median(x),
         trimmed = mean(x, trim = .1))
}
x <- rcauchy(10)
center(x, "t")      # Works
center(x, 2)       # Same, for base=0
```



```

center(x, "med")    # Works
center(x, 1)       # Same, for base=0
try(center(x, "m")) # Error

```

---

multi.focal.function    *Local and Focal Grid Function with Multiple Grids as Inputs*

---

## Description

multi.focal.function cuts out square or circular moving windows from a stack of grids (matrices) and applies a user-defined matrix function that takes multiple arguments to this data. multi.local.function is a more efficiently coded special case of moving windows of size 0, i.e. functions applied to individual grid cells of a stack of grids. This is especially useful for applying predict methods of statistical models to a stack of grids containing the explanatory variables (see Examples and [grid.predict\(\)](#)). The function is suitable for large grid files as it can process them row by row; but it may be slow because one call to the focal function is generated for each grid cell.

## Usage

```

multi.focal.function(
  in.grids,
  in.grid.prefix,
  in.factor.grid,
  out.grid.prefix,
  path = NULL,
  in.path = path,
  out.path = path,
  fun,
  in.varnames,
  out.varnames,
  radius = 0,
  is.pixel.radius = TRUE,
  na.strings = "NA",
  valid.ranges,
  nodata.values = c(),
  out.nodata.value,
  search.mode = c("circle", "square"),
  digits = 4,
  hdr.digits = 10,
  dec = ".",
  quiet = TRUE,
  nlines = Inf,
  mw.to.vector = FALSE,
  mw.na.rm = FALSE,
  pass.location = FALSE,
  ...
)

```

```

multi.local.function(
  in.grids,
  in.grid.prefix,
  out.grid.prefix,
  path = NULL,
  in.path = path,
  out.path = path,
  fun,
  in.varnames,
  out.varnames,
  na.strings = "NA",
  valid.ranges,
  nodata.values = c(),
  out.nodata.value,
  digits = 4,
  hdr.digits = 10,
  dec = ".",
  quiet = TRUE,
  nlines = Inf,
  na.action = stats::na.exclude,
  pass.location = FALSE,
  ...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>in.grids</code>	character vector: file names of input ASCII grids, relative to <code>in.path</code> ; <code>in.grid.prefix</code> will be used as a prefix to the file name if specified; default file extension: <code>.asc</code>
<code>in.grid.prefix</code>	character string (optional), defining a file name prefix to be used for the input file names; a dash (-) will separate the prefix and the <code>in.varnames</code>
<code>in.factor.grid</code>	optional file name giving a gridded categorical variables defining zones; zone boundaries are used as breaklines for the moving window (see Details)
<code>out.grid.prefix</code>	character string (optional), defining a file name prefix to be used for the output file names; a dash (-) will separate the prefix and the <code>out.varnames</code>
<code>path</code>	path in which to look for <code>in.grids</code> and write output grid files; see also <code>in.path</code> and <code>out.path</code> , which overwrite <code>path</code> if they are specified
<code>in.path</code>	path in which to look for <code>in.grids</code> (defaults to <code>path</code> )
<code>out.path</code>	path in which to write output grid files; defaults to <code>path</code>
<code>fun</code>	a function, or name of a function, to be applied on the moving window; see Details; <code>fun</code> is expected to accept named arguments with the names given by <code>in.varnames</code> ; <code>grid.predict()</code> is a wrapper function that can be used for applying a model's <code>predict</code> method to a stack of grids; see Details. In <code>multi.local.function</code> , <code>fun</code> must be able to process arguments that are vectors of equal length (e.g., a vector of 50 slope angles, another vector of 50 elevation values, etc.).

<code>in.varnames</code>	character vector: names of the variables corresponding to the <code>in.grids</code> ; if missing, same as <code>in.grids</code> ; if specified, must have the same length and order as <code>in.grids</code>
<code>out.varnames</code>	character vector specifying the name(s) of the variable(s) returned by <code>fun</code> ; if missing, <code>multi.focal.function</code> will try to determine the <code>varnames</code> from <code>fun</code> itself, or from a call to <code>fun</code> if this is a function (see <a href="#">Details</a> )
<code>radius</code>	numeric value specifying the (circular or square) radius of the moving window; see <code>is.pixel.radius</code> and <code>search.mode</code> ; note that all data within distance $\leq$ radius will be included in the moving window, not $<$ radius.
<code>is.pixel.radius</code>	logical: if TRUE (default), the <code>radius</code> will be interpreted as a (possibly non-integer) number of pixels; if FALSE, it is interpreted as a radius measured in the grid (map) units.
<code>na.strings</code>	passed on to <code>scan()</code>
<code>valid.ranges</code>	optional list of length <code>length(in.grids)</code> with numeric vector of length 2, specifying minimum and maximum valid values read from input file; all values $<$ <code>valid.ranges[[i]][1]</code> or $>$ <code>valid.ranges[[i]][1]</code> will be converted to NA.
<code>nodata.values</code>	numeric vector: any values from the input grid file that should be converted to NA, in addition to the <code>nodata</code> value specified in the grid header
<code>out.nodata.value</code>	numeric: value used for storing NAs in the output file(s); if missing, use the same <code>nodata</code> value as specified in the header of the input grid file
<code>search.mode</code>	character, either "circle" (default) for a circular search window, or "square" for a squared one.
<code>digits</code>	numeric, specifying the number of digits to be used for output grid file.
<code>hdr.digits</code>	numeric, specifying the number of digits to be used for the header of the output grid file (default: 10; see <code>write.ascii.grid.header()</code> ).
<code>dec</code>	character, specifying the decimal mark to be used for input and output.
<code>quiet</code>	If FALSE, gives some output ("*") after every 10th line of the grid file and when the job is done.
<code>nlines</code>	Number of lines to be processed; useful for testing purposes.
<code>mw.to.vector</code>	logical: Should the content of the moving window be coerced (from a matrix) to a vector?
<code>mw.na.rm</code>	logical: Should NAs be removed from moving window prior to passing the data to <code>fun</code> ? Only applicable when <code>mw.to.vector=TRUE</code> .
<code>pass.location</code>	logical: Should the x,y coordinates of grid points (center of grid cells) be passed to <code>fun</code> ? If TRUE, two additional arguments named arguments <code>x</code> and <code>y</code> are passed to <code>fun</code> ; NOTE: This currently only works for <code>radius=0</code> , otherwise a warning is produced and <code>pass.location</code> is reset to FALSE.
<code>...</code>	Arguments to be passed to <code>fun</code> ; <code>local.function</code> : arguments to be passed to <code>focal.function</code> .
<code>na.action</code>	function: determines if/how NA values are omitted from the stack of input variables; use <code>na.exclude()</code> (default) or <code>na.pass()</code> if <code>fun</code> can handle NA values correctly

## Details

multi.local.function is probably most useful for applying the predict method of a fitted model to a grids representing the predictor variables. An example is given below and in more detail in Brenning (2008) (who used multi.focal.function for the same purpose); see also [grid.predict\(\)](#).

multi.local.function is essentially the same as multi.focal.function for radius=0, but coded MUCH more efficiently. (The relevant code will eventually migrate into multi.focal.function as well, but requires further testing.) Applying a GAM to the data set of Brenning (2008) takes about 1/100th the time with multi.local.function compared to multi.focal.function.

multi.focal.function extends [focal.function\(\)](#) by allowing multiple input grids to be passed to the focal function fun operating on moving windows. It passes square matrices of size  $2 \times \text{radius} + 1$  to the function fun if mw.to.vector=FALSE (default), or a vector of length  $\leq (2 \times \text{radius} + 1)^2$  if mw.to.vector=TRUE; one such matrix or vector per input grid will be passed to fun as an argument whose name is specified by in.varnames.

These matrices or vectors will contain the content of the moving window, which may possibly contain NAs even if the in.grid has no nodata values, e.g. due to edge effects. If search.mode="circle", values more than radius units (pixels or grid units, depending on is.pixel.radius) away from the center pixel / matrix entry will be set to NA. In addition, valid.range, nodata.values, and the nodata values specified in the in.grid are checked to assign further NAs to pixels in the moving window. Finally, if in.factor.grid specifies zones, all pixels in the moving window that belong to a different zone than the center pixel are set to NA, or, in other words, zone boundaries are used as breaklines.

The function fun should return a single numeric value or a numeric vector, such as a regression result or a vector of class probabilities returned by a soft classifier. In addition to the named arguments receiving the moving window data, fun may have additional arguments; the ... argument of focal.function is passed on to fun. [grid.predict\(\)](#) uses this feature.

Optionally, fun should support the following feature: If no argument is passed to it, then it should return a character vector giving variable names to be used for naming the output grids.

For the input files, .asc is used as the default file extension, if it is not specified by the user.

See [focal.function\(\)](#) for details.

## Value

multi.focal.function returns the character vector of output file names.

## Note

multi.focal.function can do all the things [focal.function\(\)](#) can do.

## Author(s)

Alexander Brenning

## References

Brenning, A. (2008): Statistical geocomputing combining R and SAGA: The example of landslide susceptibility analysis with generalized additive models. In: J. Boehner, T. Blaschke, L. Montanarella (eds.), SAGA - Seconds Out (= Hamburger Beitrage zur Physischen Geographie und Landschaftsoekologie, 19), 23-32.

## See Also

[focal.function\(\)](#), [grid.predict\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# Assume that d is a data.frame with point observations
# of a numerical response variable y and predictor variables
# a, b, and c.
# Fit a generalized additive model to y,a,b,c.
# We want to model b and c as nonlinear terms:
require(gam)
fit <- gam(y ~ a + s(b) + s(c), data = d)
multi.local.function(in.grids = c("a", "b", "c"),
  out.varnames = "pred",
  fun = grid.predict, fit = fit )
# Note that the 'grid.predict' uses by default the
# predict method of 'fit'.
# Model predictions are written to a file named pred.asc

## End(Not run)

## Not run:
# A fake example of a logistic additive model:
require(gam)
fit <- gam(cl ~ a + s(b) + s(c), data = d, family = binomial)
multi.local.function(in.grids = c("a", "b", "c"),
  out.varnames = "pred",
  fun = grid.predict, fit = fit,
  control.predict = list(type = "response") )
# 'control.predict' is passed on to 'grid.predict', which
# dumps its contents into the arguments for 'fit's
# 'predict' method.
# Model predictions are written to a file named pred.asc

## End(Not run)
```

**Description**

These functions pick (i.e. interpolate without worrying too much about theory) values of a spatial variables from a data stored in a data.frame, a point shapefile, or an ASCII or SAGA grid, using nearest neighbor or kriging interpolation. `pick.from.points` and `[internal.]pick.from.ascii.grid` are the core functions that are called by the different wrappers.

**Usage**

```
pick.from.points(  
  data,  
  src,  
  pick,  
  method = c("nearest.neighbour", "krige"),  
  set.na = FALSE,  
  radius = 200,  
  nmin = 0,  
  nmax = 100,  
  sill = 1,  
  range = radius,  
  nugget = 0,  
  model = vgm(sill - nugget, "Sph", range = range, nugget = nugget),  
  log = rep(FALSE, length(pick)),  
  X.name = "x",  
  Y.name = "y",  
  cbind = TRUE  
)  
  
pick.from.shapefile(data, shapefile, X.name = "x", Y.name = "y", ...)  
  
pick.from.ascii.grid(  
  data,  
  file,  
  path = NULL,  
  varname = NULL,  
  prefix = NULL,  
  method = c("nearest.neighbour", "krige"),  
  cbind = TRUE,  
  parallel = FALSE,  
  nsplit,  
  quiet = TRUE,  
  ...  
)  
  
pick.from.ascii.grids(  
  data,  
  file,  
  path = NULL,  
  varname = NULL,
```

```

    prefix = NULL,
    cbind = TRUE,
    quiet = TRUE,
    ...
)

internal.pick.from.ascii.grid(
  data,
  file,
  path = NULL,
  varname = NULL,
  prefix = NULL,
  method = c("nearest.neighbour", "krige"),
  nodata.values = c(-9999, -99999),
  at.once,
  quiet = TRUE,
  X.name = "x",
  Y.name = "y",
  nlines = Inf,
  cbind = TRUE,
  range,
  radius,
  na.strings = "NA",
  ...
)

pick.from.saga.grid(
  data,
  filename,
  path,
  varname,
  prec = 7,
  show.output.on.console = FALSE,
  env = rsaga.env(),
  ...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>data</code>	data.frame giving the coordinates (in columns specified by <code>X.name</code> , <code>Y.name</code> ) of point locations at which to interpolate the specified variables or grid values
<code>src</code>	data.frame
<code>pick</code>	variables to be picked (interpolated) from <code>src</code> ; if missing, use all available variables, except those specified by <code>X.name</code> and <code>Y.name</code>
<code>method</code>	interpolation method to be used; uses a partial match to the alternatives "nearest.neighbor" (currently the default) and "krige"
<code>set.na</code>	logical: if a column with a name specified in <code>pick</code> already exists in <code>data</code> , how should it be dealt with? <code>set.na=FALSE</code> (default) only overwrites existing data if

	the interpolator yields a non-NA result; <code>set.na=TRUE</code> passes NA values returned by the interpolator on to the results <code>data.frame</code>
<code>radius</code>	numeric value specifying the radius of the local neighborhood to be used for interpolation; defaults to 200 map units (presumably meters), or, in the functions for grid files, $2.5 * \text{cellsize}$ .
<code>nmin</code>	numeric, for <code>method="krige"</code> only: see <code>gstat::krige()</code> function in package <b>gstat</b>
<code>nmax</code>	numeric, for <code>method="krige"</code> only: see <code>gstat::krige()</code> function in package <b>gstat</b>
<code>sill</code>	numeric, for <code>method="krige"</code> only: the overall sill parameter to be used for the variogram
<code>range</code>	numeric, for <code>method="krige"</code> only: the variogram range
<code>nugget</code>	numeric, for <code>method="krige"</code> only: the nugget effect
<code>model</code>	for <code>method="krige"</code> only: the variogram model to be used for interpolation; defaults to a spherical variogram with parameters specified by the <code>range</code> , <code>sill</code> , and <code>nugget</code> arguments; see <code>gstat::vgm()</code> in package <b>gstat</b> for details
<code>log</code>	logical vector, specifying for each variable in <code>pick</code> if interpolation should take place on the logarithmic scale (default: <code>FALSE</code> )
<code>X.name</code>	name of the variable containing the x coordinates
<code>Y.name</code>	name of the variable containing the y coordinates
<code>cbind</code>	logical: should the new variables be added to the input <code>data.frame</code> ( <code>cbind=TRUE</code> , the default), or should they be returned as a separate vector or <code>data.frame</code> ? <code>cbind=FALSE</code>
<code>shapefile</code>	point shapefile
<code>...</code>	arguments to be passed to <code>pick.from.points</code> , and to <code>internal.pick.from.ascii.grid</code> in the case of <code>pick.from.ascii.grid</code>
<code>file</code>	file name (relative to path, default file extension <code>.asc</code> ) of an ASCII grid from which to pick a variable, or an open connection to such a file
<code>path</code>	optional path to file
<code>varname</code>	character string: a variable name for the variable interpolated from grid file in <code>pick.from.*.grid</code> ; if missing, variable name will be determined from filename by a call to <code>create.variable.name()</code>
<code>prefix</code>	an optional prefix to be added to the <code>varname</code>
<code>parallel</code>	logical (default: <code>FALSE</code> ): enable parallel processing; requires additional packages such as (formerly) <code>doSNOW</code> or <b>doMC</b> . See example below and <code>plyr::ddply()</code>
<code>nsplit</code>	split the <code>data.frame</code> data in <code>nsplit</code> disjoint subsets in order to increase efficiency by using <code>plyr::ddply()</code> in package <b>plyr</b> . The default seems to perform well in many situations.
<code>quiet</code>	logical: provide information on the progress of grid processing on screen? (only relevant if <code>at.once=FALSE</code> and <code>method="nearest.neighbour"</code> )
<code>nodata.values</code>	numeric vector specifying grid values that should be converted to NA; in addition to the values specified here, the <code>nodata</code> value given in the input grid's header will be used



at.once	logical: should the grid be read as a whole or line by line? at.once=FALSE is useful for processing large grids that do not fit into memory; the argument is currently by default FALSE for method="nearest.neighbour", and it currently MUST be TRUE for all other methods (in these cases, TRUE is the default value); piecewise processing with at.once=FALSE is always faster than processing the whole grid at.once
nlines	numeric: stop after processing nlines lines of the input grid; useful for testing purposes
na.strings	passed on to <a href="#">scan()</a>
filename	character: name of a SAGA grid file, default extension .sgrd
prec	numeric, specifying the number of digits to be used in converting a SAGA grid to an ASCII grid in pick.from.saga.grid
show.output.on.console	a logical (default: FALSE), indicates whether to capture the output of the command and show it on the R console (see <a href="#">system()</a> , <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a> ).
env	list: RSAGA geoprocessing environment created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a>

## Details

pick.from.points interpolates the variables defined by pick in the src data.frame to the locations provided by the data data.frame. Only nearest neighbour and ordinary kriging interpolation are currently available. This function is intended for 'data-rich' situations in which not much thought needs to be put into a geostatistical analysis of the spatial structure of a variable. In particular, this function is supposed to provide a simple, 'quick-and-dirty' interface for situations where the src data points are very densely distributed compared to the data locations.

pick.from.shapefile is a front-end of pick.from.points for point shapefiles.

pick.from.ascii.grid retrieves data values from an ASCII raster file using either nearest neighbour or ordinary kriging interpolation. The latter may not be possible for large raster data sets because the entire grid needs to be read into an R matrix. Split-apply-combine strategies are used to improve efficiency and allow for parallelization.

The optional parallelization of pick.from.ascii.grid computation requires the use of a *parallel backend* package such as (formerly) **doSNOW** or **doMC**, and the parallel backend needs to be registered before calling this function with parallel=TRUE. The example section provides an example using **doSNOW** on Windows. I have seen 25-40% reduction in processing time by parallelization in some examples that I ran on a dual core Windows computer.

pick.from.ascii.grids performs multiple pick.from.ascii.grid calls. File path and prefix arguments may be specific to each file (i.e. each may be a character vector), but all interpolation settings will be the same for each file, limiting the flexibility a bit compared to individual pick.from.ascii.grid calls by the user. pick.from.ascii.grids currently processes the files sequentially (i.e. parallelization is limited to the pick.from.ascii.grid calls within this function).

pick.from.saga.grid is the equivalent to pick.from.ascii.grid for SAGA grid files. It simply converts the SAGA grid file to a (temporary) ASCII raster file and applies pick.from.ascii.grid.

internal.pick.from.ascii.grid is an internal 'workhorse' function that by itself would be very inefficient for large data sets data. This function is called by pick.from.ascii.grid, which uses a split-apply-combine strategy implemented in the **plyr** package.

**Value**

If `cbind=TRUE`, columns with the new, interpolated variables are added to the input `data.frame` `data`.

If `cbind=FALSE`, a `data.frame` only containing the new variables is returned (possibly coerced to a vector if only one variable is processed).

**Note**

`method="krige"` requires the **gstat** package.

`pick.from.shapefile` requires the **shapefiles** package.

The nearest neighbour interpolation currently randomly breaks ties if `pick.from.points` is used, and in a deterministic fashion (rounding towards greater grid indices, i.e. toward south and east) in the grid functions.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning

**References**

Brenning, A. (2008): Statistical geocomputing combining R and SAGA: The example of landslide susceptibility analysis with generalized additive models. In: J. Boehner, T. Blaschke, L. Montanarella (eds.), SAGA - Seconds Out (= Hamburger Beitrage zur Physischen Geographie und Landschaftsoekologie, 19), 23-32.

**See Also**

[grid.to.xyz\(\)](#), [gstat::vgm\(\)](#), [gstat::krige\(\)](#), [read.ascii.grid\(\)](#), [write.ascii.grid\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# assume that 'dem' is an ASCII grid and d a data.frame with variables x and y
pick.from.ascii.grid(d, "dem")
# parallel processing on Windows using the doSNOW package:
# ---outdated - doSNOW has been superseded---
## require(doSNOW)
## registerDoSNOW(cl <- makeCluster(2, type = "SOCK")) # DualCore processor
## pick.from.ascii.grid(d, "dem", parallel = TRUE)
# produces two (ignorable) warning messages when using doSNOW
# typically 25-40% faster than the above on my DualCore notebook
## stopCluster(cl)

## End(Not run)

## Not run:
# use the meuse data for some tests:
require(gstat)
data(meuse)
data(meuse.grid)
meuse.nn = pick.from.points(data=meuse.grid, src=meuse,
```

```

    pick=c("cadmium","copper","elev"), method="nearest.neighbour")
meuse.kr = pick.from.points(data=meuse.grid, src=meuse,
    pick=c("cadmium","copper","elev"), method="krige", radius=100)
# it does make a difference:
plot(meuse.kr$cadmium,meuse.nn$cadmium)
plot(meuse.kr$copper,meuse.nn$copper)
plot(meuse.kr$elev,meuse.nn$elev)

## End(Not run)

```

---

read.ascii.grid

*Read/write ASCII, SAGA and Rd Grid Files*


---

### Description

These functions provide simple interfaces for reading and writing grids from/to ASCII grids and Rd files. Grids are stored as matrices, their headers in lists.

### Usage

```

read.ascii.grid(
  file,
  return.header = TRUE,
  print = 0,
  nodata.values = c(),
  at.once = TRUE,
  na.strings = "NA"
)

read.ascii.grid.header(file, ...)

read.sgrd(
  fname,
  return.header = TRUE,
  print = 0,
  nodata.values = c(),
  at.once = TRUE,
  prec = 7,
  ...
)

read.Rd.grid(fname, return.header = TRUE)

write.ascii.grid(
  data,
  file,
  header = NULL,
  write.header = TRUE,

```

```

    digits,
    hdr.digits = 10,
    dec = ".",
    georef = "corner"
)

write.ascii.grid.header(file, header, georef, dec = ".", hdr.digits = 10)

write.sgrd(
  data,
  file,
  header = NULL,
  prec = 7,
  hdr.prec = 10,
  georef = "corner",
  ...
)

write.Rd.grid(data, file, header = NULL, write.header = TRUE, compress = TRUE)

```

### Arguments

<code>file</code>	file name of an ASCII grid (extension defaults to <code>.asc</code> if not specified), or a connection open for reading or writing, as required
<code>return.header</code>	logical: should the grid header be returned (default), or just the grid data matrix? In the former case, <code>read.ascii.grid</code> returns a list with two components named <code>data</code> and <code>header</code> .
<code>print</code>	numeric, specifying how detailed the output reporting the progress should be (currently 0 to 2, 0 being minimum output).
<code>nodata.values</code>	optional numeric vector specifying nodata values to be used in addition to the nodata value specified in the grid header; nodata values are converted to NA.
<code>at.once</code>	logical: if TRUE, read the whole grid with one scan command; if FALSE, read it row by row using <code>scan</code> with option <code>nlines=1</code> .
<code>na.strings</code>	passed on to <code>scan()</code> .
<code>...</code>	<code>read.sgrd</code> , <code>write.sgrd</code> : additional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor</code>
<code>fname</code>	file name of a grid stored as an R ( <code>.Rd</code> ) file; extension defaults to <code>.Rd</code>
<code>prec</code>	integer: number of digits of temporary ASCII grid used for importing or exporting a SAGA grid
<code>data</code>	grid data: a data matrix, or a list with components <code>data</code> (the grid data matrix) and <code>header</code> (the grid header information).
<code>header</code>	optional list argument specifying the grid header information as returned by the <code>read.ascii.grid</code> or <code>read.ascii.grid.header</code> function; see Details
<code>write.header</code>	logical: should the header be written with the grid data? (default: TRUE)
<code>digits</code>	numeric: if not missing, write data rounded to this many decimal places
<code>hdr.digits</code>	numeric: see <code>hdr.prec</code>

dec	character (default: "."): decimal mark used in input or output file
georef	character: specifies whether the output grid should be georeferenced by the "center" or "corner" of its lower left grid cell; defaults to "corner".
hdr.prec	numeric: write (non-integer) header data with this many decimal places; a value of 9 or higher is recommended for compatibility with SAGA GIS (default: 10)
compress	logical: should the .Rd file written by write.Rd.file be compressed? (default: TRUE)

### Value

The `read.*` functions return either a list with components `data` (the grid data matrix) and `header` (the grid header information, see below), if `return.header=TRUE`, or otherwise just the grid data matrix `return.header=FALSE`.

The grid data matrix is a numeric matrix whose first column corresponds to the first (i.e. northern-most) row of the grid. Columns run from left = West to right = East.

The header information returned by the `read.ascii.grid[.header]` functions (if `return.header=TRUE`) is a list with the following components:

<code>ncols</code>	Number of grid columns.
<code>nrows</code>	Number of grid rows.
<code>xllcorner</code>	x coordinate of the corner of the lower left grid cell.
<code>yllcorner</code>	y coordinate of the corner of the lower left grid cell.
<code>cellsize</code>	Single numeric value specifying the size of a grid cell or pixel in both x and y direction.
<code>nodata_value</code>	Single numeric value being interpreted as NA (typically -9999).
<code>xllcenter</code>	x coordinate of the center of the lower left grid cell
<code>yllcenter</code>	y coordinate of the center of the lower left grid cell

Note: The order of the components, especially of `xllcorner` and `yllcenter`, may change, depending on the order in which they appear in the grid header and on the georeferencing method (center or corner) used for the grid. The `xllcorner` and `yllcenter` attributes differ only by `cellsize/2`.

### Note

`read.sgrd` and `write.sgrd` import/export grids indirectly by creating temporary ASCII grid files (this explains why `write.sgrd` has `prec` and `hdr.prec` arguments). Consider using `sf::read_sf()` in package `sf` instead, which is likely more efficient but may require coercion of your gridded data to/from an object supported by `sf`.

The `read.Rd.grid` and `write.Rd.grid` functions use the `load` and `save` commands to store a grid. The variable name used is `data`, which is either a numeric matrix or a list with components `data` (the grid data matrix) and `header` (the grid header information).

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning

**See Also**

[sf::read\\_sf\(\)](#) and [sf::write\\_sf\(\)](#) in package `sf`, and `readAsciiGrid` and `writeAsciiGrid` in package `maptools`

---

relative.position      *Relative Topographic Position*

---

**Description**

`relative.position` and `relative.rank` are used with [focal.function\(\)](#) to determine the relative value of a grid cell compared to its surroundings, either on a metric scale or based on ranks.

**Usage**

```
relative.position(x)

relative.rank(x, ties.method = "average")
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	a square matrix with the grid data from the moving window, possibly containing NA values
<code>ties.method</code>	see <a href="#">rank()</a>

**Value**

If `x` is provided, a numeric value in the interval [0,1] is returned.

If `x` is missing, a character vector of same length giving suggested variable (or file) names, here "relpos" and "relrank", respectively. See [focal.function\(\)](#) for details.

**See Also**

[focal.function\(\)](#), [rank\(\)](#), [centvalue\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
m = matrix( round(runif(9,1,10)), ncol=3 )
print(m)
relative.position(m)
relative.rank(m)
## Not run:
focal.function("dem", fun=relative.rank, radius=5)
focal.function("dem", fun=relative.position, radius=5)
relrank = as.vector(read.ascii.grid("relrank")$data)
relpos = as.vector(read.ascii.grid("relpos")$data)
plot(relpos, relrank, pch=".")
cor(relpos, relrank, use="complete.obs", method="pearson")

## End(Not run)
```

---

resid.median	<i>Residual Median and Quantile Filters for Grids</i>
--------------	---

---

## Description

These functions use the median and other quantiles to describe the difference between a grid value and its neighborhood. They are designed for use with [focal.function\(\)](#).

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'median'  
resid(x)  
  
## S3 method for class 'minmedmax'  
resid(x)  
  
## S3 method for class 'quantile'  
resid(x, probs)  
  
## S3 method for class 'quartiles'  
resid(x)
```

## Arguments

x	a square matrix with the grid data from the moving window, possibly containing NA values
probs	numeric vector of probabilities in [0,1] to be passed to <a href="#">quantile()</a>

## Details

These functions are designed for being called by [focal.function\(\)](#), which repeatedly passes the contents of a square or circular moving window to these functions.

The `resid.median` function rests the value of the central grid cell from the median of the whole moving window. Thus, in terms of topography, a positive residual median indicates that this grid cell stands out compared to its surroundings. `resid.quantile` gives more flexibility in designing such residual attributes.

## Value

If x is provided, a numeric vector of length 1 (`resid.median`), 3 (`resid.minmedmax` and `resid.quartiles`), or `length(probs)` (`resid.quantile`).

If x is missing, a character vector of same length giving suggested variable (or file) names, such as "rmed". See [focal.function\(\)](#) for details.

## See Also

[focal.function\(\)](#), [quantile\(\)](#), [median\(\)](#), [centervalue\(\)](#)

---

```
rsaga.add.grid.values.to.points
```

*Add Grid Values to Point Shapefile*

---

### Description

Pick values from SAGA grids and attach them as a new variables to a point shapefile.

### Usage

```
rsaga.add.grid.values.to.points(
    in.shapefile,
    in.grids,
    out.shapefile,
    method = c("nearest.neighbour", "bilinear", "idw", "bicubic.spline", "b.spline"),
    ...
)
```

### Arguments

<code>in.shapefile</code>	Input point shapefile (default extension: .shp).
<code>in.grids</code>	Input: character vector with names of (one or more) SAGA GIS grid files to be converted into a point shapefile.
<code>out.shapefile</code>	Output point shapefile (default extension: .shp).
<code>method</code>	interpolation method to be used; choices: nearest neighbour interpolation (default), bilinear interpolation, inverse distance weighting, bicubic spline interpolation, B-splines.
<code>...</code>	Optional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment.

### Details

Retrieves information from the selected grids at the positions of the points of the selected points layer and adds it to the resulting layer.

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

### Note

This function uses module `Add Grid Values to Points` in SAGA GIS library `shapes_grid`.



**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA modules)

**See Also**

[pick.from.points\(\)](#), [pick.from.ascii.grid\(\)](#), [pick.from.saga.grid\(\)](#), [rsaga.grid.to.points\(\)](#)

---

<code>rsaga.close.gaps</code>	<i>SAGA Modules Close Gaps and Close One Cell Gaps</i>
-------------------------------	--

---

**Description**

Close (Interpolate) Gaps

**Usage**

```
rsaga.close.gaps(in.dem, out.dem, threshold = 0.1, ...)
```

```
rsaga.close.one.cell.gaps(in.dem, out.dem, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>in.dem</code>	input: digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default file extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>out.dem</code>	output: DEM grid file without no-data values (gaps). Existing files will be overwritten!
<code>threshold</code>	tension threshold for adjusting the interpolator (default: 0.1)
<code>...</code>	optional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment

**Details**

`rsaga.close.one.cell.gaps` only fill gaps whose neighbor grid cells have non-missing data.

In `rsaga.close.gaps`, larger tension thresholds can be used to reduce overshoots and undershoots in the surfaces used to fill (interpolate) the gaps.

**Value**

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#). For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

**Note**

This function uses modules 7 (`rsaga.close.gaps` and 6 `rsaga.close.one.cell.gaps` from the SAGA library `grid_tools`.

SAGA GIS 2.0.5+ has a new additional module `Close Gaps with Spline`, which can be accessed using `rsaga.geoprocessor()` (currently no R wrapper available). See `rsaga.get.usage("grid_tools", "Close Gaps with Spline")` or in version 2.1.0+ call `rsaga.html.help("grid_tools", "Close Gaps with Spline")`.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

**See Also**

[rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
# using SAGA grids:  
rsaga.close.gaps("rawdem.sgrd", "dem.sgrd")  
# using ASCII grids:  
rsaga.esri.wrapper(rsaga.close.gaps, in.dem="rawdem", out.dem="dem")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.contour

*Contour Lines from a Grid*

---

**Description**

Creates a contour lines shapefile from a grid file in SAGA grid format.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.contour(  
  in.grid,  
  out.shapefile,  
  zstep,  
  zmin,  
  zmax,  
  vertex = "xy",  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  ...  
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>in.grid</code>	input: digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default file extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>out.shapefile</code>	output: contour line shapefile. Existing files will be overwritten!
<code>zstep, zmin, zmax</code>	lower limit, upper limit, and equidistance of contour lines
<code>vertex</code>	optional parameter: vertex type for resulting contours. Default "xy" (or 0). Only available with SAGA GIS 2.1.3+. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 "xy"</li> <li>• 1 "xyz"</li> </ul>
<code>env</code>	A SAGA geoprocessing environment, see <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a>
<code>...</code>	arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a>

**Value**

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#). For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (the default) a character vector with the module's console output.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

**See Also**

[rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#)

---

<code>rsaga.copy.sgrd</code>	<i>Create a copy of a SAGA grid file</i>
------------------------------	--

---

**Description**

Creates a copy of a SAGA grid file, optionally overwriting the target file if it already exists. Intended mainly for internal use by RSAGA functions, currently in particular [rsaga.inverse.distance\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
rsaga.copy.sgrd(in.grid, out.grid, overwrite = TRUE, env = rsaga.env())
```

**Arguments**

<code>in.grid</code>	name of a SAGA GIS grid file; file extension can be omitted
<code>out.grid</code>	name of a SAGA GIS grid file; file extension can be omitted
<code>overwrite</code>	logical; if TRUE (the default), overwrite <code>out.grid</code> if it already exists; if FALSE and the <code>out.grid</code> already exists, copying will be skipped without causing an error.
<code>env</code>	a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a>

**Value**

a vector containing the results of the multiple `file.copy()` calls

**Note**

SAGA grid files consist of three (or more) individual files with file extensions `.mgrd`, `.sgrd` and `.sdat`. The files with these three file extensions are copied, any additional files (e.g. a history file) are ignored.

---

<code>rsaga.env</code>	<i>Function to set up RSAGA geoprocessing environment: Set up the RSAGA Geoprocessing Environment</i>
------------------------	---

---

**Description**

`rsaga.env` creates a list with system-dependent information on SAGA path, module path and data (working) directory. This kind of a list is required by most RSAGA geoprocessing functions and is referred to as the 'RSAGA geoprocessing environment.'

**Usage**

```
rsaga.env(
  path = NULL,
  modules = NULL,
  workspace = ".",
  cmd = ifelse(Sys.info()["sysname"] == "Windows", "saga_cmd.exe", "saga_cmd"),
  version = NULL,
  cores,
  parallel = FALSE,
  root = NULL,
  lib.prefix
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>path</code>	path in which to find <code>cmd</code> ; <code>rsaga.env</code> is usually able to find SAGA on your system if it is installed; see Details.
<code>modules</code>	path in which to find SAGA libraries; see Details
<code>workspace</code>	path of the working directory for SAGA; defaults to the current directory ( <code>"."</code> ).
<code>cmd</code>	name of the SAGA command line program; defaults to <code>saga_cmd.exe</code> , its name under Windows
<code>version</code>	optional character string: SAGA GIS (API) version, e.g. <code>"2.0.8"</code> ; if missing, a call to <code>rsaga.get.version()</code> is used to determine version number of SAGA API

cores	optional numeric argument, or NA: number of cores used by SAGA GIS; supported only by SAGA GIS 2.1.0 (and higher), ignored otherwise (with a warning). Multicore-enabled SAGA GIS modules such as the one used by <code>rsaga.pisr()</code> seem to run in multicore mode by default when this argument is not specified, therefore cores should only be specified to use a smaller number of cores than available on a machine.
parallel	optional logical argument (default: FALSE): if TRUE, run RSAGA functions that are capable of parallel processing in parallel mode; note that this is completely independent of the behavior of SAGA GIS (which can be controlled using the cores argument); currently only some RSAGA functions support parallel processing (e.g., <code>pick.from.ascii.grid()</code> or <code>rsaga.get.modules()</code> ). <code>parallel=TRUE</code> requires that a parallel backend such as <code>doSNOW</code> or <code>doMC</code> is available and has been started prior to calling any parallelized RSAGA function, otherwise warnings may be generated
root	optional root path to SAGA GIS installation. It is used if RSAGA performs a search for the SAGA command line program (s. search). If left empty, on Windows C:/ is used, on Linux /usr and on Mac OS /usr/local/Cellar.
lib.prefix	character string: a possible (platform-dependent) prefix for SAGA GIS library names; if missing (recommended), a call to <code>rsaga.lib.prefix()</code> tries to determine the correct prefix, e.g. "" on Windows systems and "lib" on non-Windows systems with SAGA GIS pre-2.1.0. Try specifying "" or "lib" manually if this causes problems, and contact the package maintainer if the detection mechanism fails on your system (indicate your <code>Sys.info()["sysname"]</code> and your SAGA GIS version)

## Details

IMPORTANT: Unlike R functions such as `options()`, which changes and saves settings somewhere in a global variable, `rsaga.env()` does not actually 'save' any settings, it simply creates a list that can (and has to) be passed to other `rsaga.*` functions. See example below.

We strongly recommend to install SAGA GIS on Windows in C:/Program Files/SAGA-GIS, C:/Program Files (x86)/SAGA-GIS, C:/SAGA-GIS, C:/OSGeo4W64/apps/saga-lts or C:/OSGeo4W64/apps/saga. If you use a standalone version of SAGA GIS in a different path, please refer to section 2 below.

There are three ways to create a RSAGA environment with `rsaga.env`:

1. No paths to the SAGA command line program and to the SAGA modules are specified by the user through the arguments `path` and `modules`. On Windows `rsaga.env` tries to find the SAGA command line program in the following folders C:/Progra~1/SAGA, C:/Progra~2/SAGA, C:/Progra~1/SAGA-GIS, C:/Progra~2/SAGA-GIS, C:/SAGA-GIS, C:/OSGeo4W64/apps/saga-lts and C:/OSGeo4W64/apps/saga. If this fails and attempt is being made to find the SAGA command line program with a search on C:/ (The drive letter can be changed with the `root` argument). The subfolder `tools` (SAGA Version < 3.0.0 subfolder `modules`) is checked for the SAGA module libraries. On Unix systems `rsaga.env` tries to find the SAGA command line program in various default paths. Additionally, on Unix systems the `PATH` environment variable is checked for the path to the SAGA command line program and the `SAGA_MLB` environment variable is checked for the SAGA module libraries. If this fails, a search for the SAGA command line program and the module libraries is performed on `/usr`. If no SAGA command line program can be found, please specify the paths as described in section 2.

2. The user specifies both the path to the SAGA command line program and to the SAGA module libraries. Both paths are checked if they are valid. Use this if SAGA GIS is located in a non-standard path or if you use more than one SAGA GIS version.
3. The user specifies only the path to the SAGA command line program. A search for the SAGA modules is performed as described in section 1.

### Value

A list with components `workspace`, `cmd`, `path`, `modules`, `version`, `numeric_version`, `cores` and `parallel` with values as passed to `rsaga.env` or default values as described in the Details section.

### Note

Note that the default workspace is `."`, not `getwd()`; i.e. the default SAGA workspace folder is not fixed, it changes each time you change the R working directory using `setwd`.

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning and Marc Becker

### See Also

[rsaga.get.version\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
# Check the default RSAGA environment on your computer:
myenv <- rsaga.env()
myenv
# SAGA data in C:/sagadata, binaries in C:/SAGA-GIS, modules in C:/SAGA-GIS/modules:
myenv <- rsaga.env(workspace="C:/sagadata", path="C:/SAGA-GIS")
# Unix: SAGA in /usr/bin (instead of the default /usr/local/bin),
# and modules in /use/lib/saga:
# myenv <- rsaga.env(path="/usr/bin")
# Use the 'myenv' environment for SAGA geoprocessing:
rsaga.hillshade("dem", "hillshade", env=myenv)
# ...creates (or overwrites) grid "C:/sagadata/hillshade.sgrd"
# derived from digital elevation model "C:/sagadata/dem.sgrd"

# Same calculation with different SAGA version:
# (I keep several versions in SAGA-GIS_x.x.x folders:)
myenv05 = rsaga.env(path = "C:/Progra~1/SAGA-GIS_2.0.5")
rsaga.hillshade("dem", "hillshade205", env=myenv05)

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.esri.to.sgrd      *Convert ESRI ASCII/binary grids to SAGA grids*

---

### Description

rsaga.esri.to.sgrd converts grid files from ESRI's ASCII (.asc) and binary (.flt) format to SAGA's (version 2) grid format (.sgrd).

### Usage

```
rsaga.esri.to.sgrd(
  in.grids,
  out.sgrds = set.file.extension(in.grids, ".sgrd"),
  in.path,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

in.grids	character vector of ESRI ASCII/binary grid files (default file extension: .asc); files should be located in folder in.path
out.sgrds	character vector of output SAGA grid files; defaults to in.grids with file extension being replaced by .sgrd, which is also the default extension if file names without extension are specified; files will be placed in the current SAGA workspace (default: <code>rsaga.env()</code> \$workspace, or <code>env\$workspace</code> if an env argument is provided)
in.path	folder with in.grids
...	optional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

If multiple `in.grids` are converted, the result will be a vector of numerical error codes of the same length, or the combination of the console outputs with `c()`.

### Note

This function uses module 1 from the SAGA library `io_grid`.

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

**See Also**

[rsaga.esri.wrapper\(\)](#) for an efficient way of applying RSAGA to ESRI ASCII/binary grids;  
[rsaga.env\(\)](#)

---

rsaga.esri.wrapper      *Use RSAGA functions for ESRI grids*

---

**Description**

This wrapper converts input grid files provided in ESRI binary (.flt) or ASCII (.asc) formats to SAGA's (version 2) grid format, calls the RSAGA geoprocessing function, and converts the output grids back to the ESRI grid format. Conversion can also be limited to either input or output grids.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.esri.wrapper(  
  fun,  
  in.esri = TRUE,  
  out.esri = TRUE,  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  esri.workspace = env$workspace,  
  format = "ascii",  
  georef = "corner",  
  prec = 5,  
  esri.extension,  
  condensed.res = TRUE,  
  clean.up = TRUE,  
  intern = TRUE,  
  ...  
)
```

**Arguments**

fun	function: one of the RSAGA geoprocessing functions, such as <a href="#">rsaga.close.gaps()</a> or <a href="#">rsaga.hillshade()</a> etc.
in.esri	logical: are input grids provided as ESRI grids (in.esri=TRUE) or as SAGA grids?
out.esri	logical: should output grids be converted to ESRI grids?
env	RSAGA environment as returned by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a>
esri.workspace	directory for the input and output ESRI ASCII/binary grids
format	output file format, either "ascii" (default; equivalent: format=1) for ASCII grids or "binary" (equivalent: 0) for binary ESRI grids (.flt).
georef	character: "corner" (equivalent numeric code: 0) or "center" (default; equivalent: 1). Determines whether the georeference will be related to the center or corner of its extreme lower left grid cell.



<code>prec</code>	number of digits when writing floating point values to ASCII grid files (only relevant if <code>out.esri=TRUE</code> ).
<code>esri.extension</code>	extension for input/output ESRI grids: defaults to <code>.asc</code> for <code>format="ascii"</code> , and to <code>.flt</code> for <code>format="binary"</code>
<code>condensed.res</code>	logical: return only results of the RSAGA geoprocessing function <code>fun</code> ( <code>condensed.res=TRUE</code> ), or include the results of the import and export operations, i.e. the calls to <a href="#">rsaga.esri.to.sgrd()</a> and <a href="#">rsaga.sgrd.to.esri()</a> ? (see Value)
<code>clean.up</code>	logical: delete intermediate SAGA grid files?
<code>intern</code>	intern argument to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a> ; see Value
<code>...</code>	additional arguments for <code>fun</code> ; NOTE: ESRI ASCII/float raster file names should NOT include the file extension ( <code>.asc</code> , <code>.flt</code> ); the file extension is defined by the <code>esri.extension</code> and <code>format</code> arguments!

### Details

ESRI ASCII/float raster file names should NOT include the file extension (`.asc`, `.flt`); the file extension is defined by the `esri.extension` and `format` arguments!

### Value

The object returned depends on the `condensed.res` arguments and the `intern` argument passed to the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#).

If `condensed.res=TRUE` and `intern=FALSE`, a single numerical error code (0: success) is returned. If `condensed.res=TRUE` and `intern=TRUE` (default), a character vector with the module's console output is returned (invisibly).

If `condensed.res=FALSE` the result is a list with components `in.res`, `geoproc.res` and `out.res`. Each of these components is either an error code (for `intern=FALSE`) or (for `intern=TRUE`) a character vector with the console output of the input ([rsaga.esri.to.sgrd\(\)](#)), the geoprocessing (`fun`), and the output conversion ([rsaga.sgrd.to.esri\(\)](#)) step, respectively. For `in.esri=FALSE` or `out.esri=FALSE`, the corresponding component is `NULL`.

### Note

Note that the intermediate grids as well as the output grids may overwrite existing files with the same file names without prompting the user. See example below.

### See Also

[rsaga.esri.to.sgrd\(\)](#), [rsaga.sgrd.to.esri\(\)](#), [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
rsaga.esri.wrapper(rsaga.hillshade,in.dem="dem",out.grid="hshd",condensed.res=FALSE,intern=FALSE)
# if successful, returns list(in.res=0,geoproc.res=0,out.res=0),
# and writes hshd.asc; intermediate files dem.sgrd, dem.hgrd, dem.sdat,
# hshd.sgrd, hshd.hgrd, and hshd.sdat are deleted.
# hshd.asc is overwritten if it already existed.
```

```
## End(Not run)
```

---

```
rsaga.fill.sinks      Fill Sinks
```

---

## Description

Several methods for filling closed depressions in digital elevation models that would affect hydrological modeling.

## Usage

```
rsaga.fill.sinks(
  in.dem,
  out.dem,
  method = "planchon.darboux.2001",
  out.flowdir,
  out.wshed,
  minslope,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	Input: digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default extension: <code>.sgrd</code> ).
<code>out.dem</code>	Output: filled, depression-free DEM (SAGA grid file). Existing files will be overwritten!
<code>method</code>	The depression filling algorithm to be used (character). One of <code>"planchon.darboux.2001"</code> (default), <code>"wang.liu.2006"</code> , or <code>"xxl.wang.liu.2006"</code> .
<code>out.flowdir</code>	(only for <code>"wang.liu.2001"</code> ): Optional output grid file for computed flow directions (see Notes).
<code>out.wshed</code>	(only for <code>"wang.liu.2001"</code> ): Optional output grid file for watershed basins.
<code>minslope</code>	Minimum slope angle (in degree) preserved between adjacent grid cells (default value of <code>0.01</code> only for <code>method="planchon.darboux.2001"</code> , otherwise no default).
<code>...</code>	Optional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment.

## Details

This function bundles three SAGA modules for filling sinks using three different algorithms (method argument).

"planchon.darboux.2001": The algorithm of Planchon and Darboux (2001) consists of increasing the elevation of pixels in closed depressions until the sink disappears and a minimum slope angle of minslope (default: 0.01 degree) is established.

"wang.liu.2006": This module uses an algorithm proposed by Wang and Liu (2006) to identify and fill surface depressions in DEMs. The method was enhanced to allow the creation of hydrologically sound elevation models, i.e. not only to fill the depressions but also to preserve a downward slope along the flow path. If desired, this is accomplished by preserving a minimum slope gradient (and thus elevation difference) between cells. This is the fully featured version of the module creating a depression-free DEM, a flow path grid and a grid with watershed basins. If you encounter problems processing large data sets (e.g. LIDAR data) with this module try the basic version (xxl.wang.liu.2006).

"xxl.wang.liu.2006": This modified algorithm after Wang and Liu (2006) is designed to work on large data sets.

## Value

The type of object returned depends on the intern argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For intern=FALSE it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

The function writes SAGA grid files containing of the depression-free preprocessed DEM, and optionally the flow directions and watershed basins.

## Note

The flow directions are coded as 0 = north, 1 = northeast, 2 = east, ..., 7 = northwest.

If minslope=0, depressions will only be filled until a horizontal surface is established, which may not be helpful for hydrological modeling.

## Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Volker Wichmann (SAGA module)

## References

Planchon, O., and F. Darboux (2001): A fast, simple and versatile algorithm to fill the depressions of digital elevation models. *Catena* 46: 159-176.

Wang, L. & H. Liu (2006): An efficient method for identifying and filling surface depressions in digital elevation models for hydrologic analysis and modelling. *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*, Vol. 20, No. 2: 193-213.

## See Also

`rsaga.sink.removal()`, `rsaga.sink.route()`.

---

rsaga.filter.gauss      *Gauss Filter*

---

### Description

Smooth a grid using a Gauss filter.

### Usage

```
rsaga.filter.gauss(  
  in.grid,  
  out.grid,  
  sigma,  
  radius = ceiling(2 * sigma),  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  ...  
)
```

### Arguments

in.grid	input: SAGA GIS grid file (default file extension: .sgrd)
out.grid	output: SAGA GIS grid file
sigma	numeric, >0.0001: standard deviation parameter of Gauss filter
radius	positive integer: radius of moving window
env	list, setting up a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a>
...	optional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#). For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (the default) a character vector with the module's console output.

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

### See Also

[rsaga.filter.simple\(\)](#)

---

rsaga.filter.simple    *Simple Filters*

---

### Description

Apply a smoothing, sharpening or edge filter to a SAGA grid.

### Usage

```
rsaga.filter.simple(  
  in.grid,  
  out.grid,  
  mode = "circle",  
  method = c("smooth", "sharpen", "edge"),  
  radius,  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  ...  
)
```

### Arguments

<code>in.grid</code>	input: SAGA grid file (default file extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>out.grid</code>	output: SAGA grid file
<code>mode</code>	character or numeric: shape of moving window, either "square" (=0) or "circle" (=1, default)
<code>method</code>	character or numeric: "smooth" (=0), "sharpen" (=1), or "edge" (=2)
<code>radius</code>	positive integer: radius of moving window
<code>env</code>	list, setting up a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <code>rsaga.env()</code>
<code>...</code>	optional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (the default) a character vector with the module's console output.

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

### See Also

[rsaga.filter.gauss\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run: rsaga.filter.simple("dem","dem-smooth",radius=4)
```

---

```
rsaga.geoprocessor      Generic R interface for SAGA modules
```

---

**Description**

This function is the workhorse of the R–SAGA interface: It calls the SAGA command line tool to run SAGA modules and pass arguments.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.geoprocessor(
  lib,
  module = NULL,
  param = list(),
  show.output.on.console = TRUE,
  invisible = TRUE,
  intern = TRUE,
  prefix = NULL,
  flags = ifelse(show.output.on.console, "q", "s"),
  cores,
  env = rsaga.env(),
  display.command = FALSE,
  reduce.intern = TRUE,
  check.module.exists = TRUE,
  warn = options("warn")$warn,
  argsep = " ",
  check.parameters = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>lib</code>	Name of the SAGA library to be called (see Details).
<code>module</code>	Number ( $>=0$ ) or name of the module to called within the library <code>lib</code> (see Details).
<code>param</code>	A list of named arguments to be passed to the SAGA module (see Examples).
<code>show.output.on.console</code>	a logical (default: TRUE), indicates whether to capture the output of the command and show it on the R console (see <a href="#">system()</a> ).
<code>invisible</code>	a logical, indicates whether the command window should be visible on the screen.
<code>intern</code>	a logical, indicates whether to make the output of the command an R object

prefix	optional character string: prefix such as "-h" used in the <code>saga_cmd</code> call; mostly for internal purposes; call <code>saga_cmd -h</code> from the command line for details; see also flags
flags	optional character string indicating any command line flags; supported only by SAGA GIS 2.1.0 (and higher), quietly ignored otherwise: "q": no progress report (the default for <code>show.output.on.console=TRUE</code> ); "r": no messages report; "s": silent mode, i.e. no progress and no messages report (the default for <code>show.output.on.console=FALSE</code> ); other flag options probably not relevant within RSAGA
cores	optional numeric argument, or NA: number of cores used by SAGA GIS; supported only by SAGA GIS 2.1.0 (and higher), ignored otherwise (with a warning); overwrites the cores setting specified in the <code>env</code> argument (see <code>rsaga.env()</code> ). Multicore-enabled SAGA GIS modules such as the one used by <code>rsaga.pisr()</code> seem to run in multicore mode by default when this argument is not specified, therefore cores should only be specified to use a smaller number of cores than available on a machine.
env	A SAGA geoprocessing environment, i.e. a list with information on the SAGA and SAGA modules paths and the name of the working directory in which to look for input and output files. (Defaults: see <code>rsaga.env()</code> .)
display.command	Display the DOS command line for executing the SAGA module (including all the arguments to be passed). Default: FALSE.
reduce.intern	If <code>intern=TRUE</code> , reduce the text output of SAGA returned to R by eliminating redundant lines showing the progress of module execution etc. (default: TRUE).
check.module.exists	logical (default: TRUE): call <code>rsaga.module.exists()</code> to determine if the specified module can be called in the current SAGA installation
warn	logical (default: TRUE): for internal purposes - can be used to suppress warning messages generated by failed SAGA_CMD calls; currently used by <code>rsaga.get.lib.modules()</code> and related functions; see <code>options()</code> argument <code>warn</code> for details
argsep	character (default: " "); currently for internal use): defines the character symbol used as a separator between each argument name and argument value passed to <code>saga_cmd</code> . SAGA GIS 2.1.0 (RC1) seems to move toward "=" as a separator, but " " still works and some modules (e.g. the used by <code>rsaga.pisr</code> ) don't seem to work with <code>argsep="="</code> . Future releases of RSAGA may change the default <code>argsep</code> value and/or delete or ignore this argument and/or move it to <code>rsaga.env()</code> .
check.parameters	logical(default: TRUE): Check if correct parameters are used.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to <code>base::system()</code> .

## Details

This workhorse function establishes the interface between the SAGA command line program and R by submitting a system call. This is a low-level function that may be used for directly accessing

SAGA; specific functions such as `rsaga.hillshade` are intended to be more user-friendly interfaces to the most frequently used SAGA modules. These higher-level interfaces support default values for the arguments and perform some error checking; they should therefore be preferred if available.

A warning is issued if the RSAGA version is not one of 2.0.4-2.0.8 or 2.1.0-2.1.4

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to `system()`.

If `intern=FALSE`, a numerical error/success code is returned, where a value of 0 corresponds to success and a non-zero value indicates an error. Note however that the function always returns a success value of 0 if `wait=FALSE`, i.e. if it does not wait for SAGA to finish.

If `intern=TRUE` (default), the console output of SAGA is returned as a character vector. This character vector lists the input file names and modules arguments, and gives a more or less detailed report of the function's progress. Redundant information can be removed by setting `reduce.intern=TRUE`.

### Note

Existing output files will be overwritten by SAGA without prompting!

If a terrain analysis function is not directly interfaced by one of the RSAGA functions, you might still find it in the growing set of SAGA libraries and modules. The names of all libraries available in your SAGA installation can be obtained using `rsaga.get.libraries()` (or by checking the directory listing of the modules folder in the SAGA directory). The names and numeric codes of all available modules (globally or within a specific library) are retrieved by `rsaga.get.modules()`. Full-text search in library and module names is performed by `rsaga.search.modules()`. For information on the usage of SAGA command line modules, see `rsaga.get.usage()`, or the RSAGA interface function if available.

`display.command=TRUE` is mainly intended for debugging purposes to check if all arguments are passed correctly to SAGA CMD.

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface); Olaf Conrad and the SAGA development team (SAGA development)

### References

Brenning, A., 2008. Statistical geocomputing combining R and SAGA: The example of landslide susceptibility analysis with generalized additive models. In J. Boehner, T. Blaschke and L. Montanarella (eds.), *SAGA - Seconds Out (= Hamburger Beitrage zur Physischen Geographie und Landschaftsoekologie, vol. 19)*, p. 23-32.

### See Also

`rsaga.env()`, `rsaga.get.libraries()`, `rsaga.get.modules()`, `rsaga.search.modules()`, `rsaga.get.usage()`; `rsaga.esri.wrapper()` for a wrapper for ESRI ASCII/binary grids; `rsaga.hillshade()` and other higher-level functions.



**Examples**

```
## Not run:
rsaga.hillshade("dem", "hillshade", exaggeration=2)
# using the RSAGA geoprocessor:
rsaga.geoprocessor("ta_lighting", 0, list(ELEVATION="dem.sgrd", SHADE="hillshade", EXAGGERATION=2))
# equivalent DOS command line call:
# saga_cmd.exe ta_lighting 0 -ELEVATION dem.sgrd -SHADE hillshade -EXAGGERATION 2

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.get.modules      *Find SAGA libraries and modules*

---

**Description**

These functions list the SAGA libraries (`rsaga.get.libraries`) and modules (`rsaga.get.lib.modules`, `rsaga.get.modules`) available in a SAGA installation, and allow performing a full-text search among these functions.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.get.modules(
  libs,
  env = rsaga.env(),
  interactive = FALSE,
  parallel = env$parallel
)

rsaga.get.libraries(path = rsaga.env()$modules, dll)

rsaga.get.lib.modules(lib, env = rsaga.env(), interactive = FALSE)

rsaga.module.exists(libs, module, env = rsaga.env(), ...)

rsaga.search.modules(
  text,
  modules,
  search.libs = TRUE,
  search.modules = TRUE,
  env = rsaga.env(),
  ignore.case = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

`libs`                      character vector with the names of libraries in which to look for modules; if missing, all libraries will be processed

env	a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <code>rsaga.env()</code>
interactive	logical (default FALSE): should modules be returned that can only be executed in interactive mode (i.e. using SAGA GUI)?
parallel	logical (defaults to <code>env\$parallel</code> ): if TRUE, run in parallel mode; requires a parallel backend such as <b>doSNOW</b> or <b>doMC</b>
path	path of SAGA library files (modules subfolder in the SAGA installation folder); defaults to the path determined by <code>rsaga.env()</code> .
dll	file extension of dynamic link libraries
lib	character string with the name of the library in which to look for modules
module	module name or numeric code
...	currently only interactive to be passed on to <code>rsaga.get.lib.modules</code>
text	character string to be searched for in the names of available libraries and/or modules
modules	optional list: result of <code>rsaga.get.modules</code> ; if missing, a list of available modules will be retrieved using that function
search.libs	logical (default TRUE); see <code>search.modules</code>
search.modules	logical (default TRUE): should text be searched for in library and/or module names?
ignore.case	logical (default FALSE): should the text search in library/module names be case-sensitive?

### Value

`rsaga.get.libraries` returns a character vector with the names of all SAGA libraries available in the folder `env$modules`.

`rsaga.get.lib.modules` returns a data.frame with:

- name: the names of all modules in library `lib`
- code: their numeric identifiers
- interactive: a logical variable indicating whether a module can only be executed in interactive (SAGA GUI) mode

`rsaga.get.modules` returns a list with, for each SAGA library in `libs`, a data.frame with module information as given by `rsaga.get.lib.modules`. If `libs` is missing, all modules in all libraries will be retrieved.

### Note

For information on the usage of SAGA command line modules, see `rsaga.get.usage()`, or `rsaga.html.help()` (in SAGA GIS 2.1.0+), or the RSAGA interface function, if available.

### See Also

`rsaga.get.usage()`, `rsaga.html.help()`, `rsaga.geoprocessor()`, `rsaga.env()`

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# make sure that 'rsaga.env' can find 'saga_cmd.exe'
# before running this:
rsaga.get.libraries()
# list all modules in my favorite libraries:
rsaga.get.modules(c("io_grid", "grid_tools", "ta_preprocessor",
  "ta_morphometry", "ta_lighting", "ta_hydrology"))
# list *all* modules (quite a few!):
# rsaga.get.modules(interactive=TRUE)

# find modules that remove sink from DEMs:
rsaga.search.modules("sink")
# find modules that close gaps (no-data areas) in grids:
rsaga.search.modules("gap")

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.get.modules.path

*Internal functions that determine OS-specific path in which modules might be located.*

---

**Description**

Internal functions that determine OS-specific path in which modules might be located.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.get.modules.path(sysname = Sys.info()["sysname"], saga.path, root, cmd)
```

**Arguments**

sysname	character: name of the operating system, determined by default by <code>base::Sys.info()</code> : e.g., "Windows", "Linux", "Darwin" (for Mac OSX), or "FreeBSD"
saga.path	character: path with SAGA GIS binaries, as determined (e.g.) by <code>rsaga.default.path</code>
root	root path to SAGA GIS installation
cmd	name of the SAGA command line program

**Value**

character string: identified path with SAGA modules; stops with an error if not found

---

rsaga.get.usage      *Usage of SAGA command line modules*

---

## Description

rsaga.get.usage provides information on the usage of and arguments required by SAGA command line modules.

## Usage

```
rsaga.get.usage(lib, module, env = rsaga.env(), show = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

lib	name of the SAGA library
module	name or numeric identifier of SAGA module in library lib
env	a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a>
show	logical (default: TRUE); display usage in the R console?

## Details

This function is intended to provide information required to use the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#) and for writing your own high-level interface function for SAGA modules. R-SAGA interfaces already exist for some SAGA modules, e.g. [rsaga.hillshade\(\)](#), [rsaga.local.morphometry\(\)](#), but there are many more.

## Value

The character vector with usage information is invisibly returned.

## See Also

[rsaga.html.help\(\)](#), [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#), [rsaga.get.modules\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
rsaga.get.usage("io_grid",1)
rsaga.get.usage("ta_preprocessor",2)
rsaga.get.usage("ta_morphometry",0)
# in SAGA GIS 2.1.0+, compare:
rsaga.html.help("io_grid",1)
# etc.

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.get.version	<i>Determine SAGA GIS version</i>
-------------------	-----------------------------------

---

## Description

Determine SAGA GIS version.

## Usage

```
rsaga.get.version(env = rsaga.env(version = NA), ...)
```

## Arguments

env	list, setting up a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> . Note that version=NA ensures that <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> won't call <a href="#">rsaga.get.version</a> itself.
...	additional arguments to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a>

## Details

The function first attempts to determine the SAGA version directly through a system call `saga_cmd --version`, which is supported by SAGA GIS 2.0.8+. If this fails, `saga_cmd -h` is called, and it is attempted to extract the version number of the SAGA API from the output generated, which works for 2.0.4 - 2.0.7.

## Value

A character string defining the SAGA GIS (API) version. E.g., "2.0.8".

## See Also

[rsaga.env\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
myenv <- rsaga.env()
myenv$version
# rsaga.env actually calls rsaga.get.version:
rsaga.get.version()

# I keep several versions of SAGA GIS in SAGA-GIS_2.0.x folders:
myenv05 = rsaga.env(path = "C:/Progra~1/SAGA-GIS_2.0.5", version = NA)
# Check if it's really version 2.0.5 as suggested by the folder name:
rsaga.get.version(env = myenv05)

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.grid.calculus     *SAGA Module Grid Calculus*


---

## Description

Perform Arithmetic Operations on Grids

## Usage

```
rsaga.grid.calculus(in.grids, out.grid, formula, env = rsaga.env(), ...)
```

```
rsaga.linear.combination(
  in.grids,
  out.grid,
  coef,
  cf.digits = 16,
  remove.zeros = FALSE,
  remove.ones = TRUE,
  env = rsaga.env(),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

<code>in.grids</code>	input character vector: SAGA grid files (default file extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>out.grid</code>	output: grid file resulting from the cell-by-cell application of 'formula' to the grids. Existing files will be overwritten!
<code>formula</code>	character string of formula specifying the arithmetic operation to be performed on the <code>in.grids</code> (see Details); if this is a formula, only the right hand side will be used.
<code>env</code>	RSAGA geoprocessing environment, generated by a call to <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a>
<code>...</code>	optional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a>
<code>coef</code>	numeric: coefficient vector to be used for the linear combination of the <code>in.grids</code> . If <code>coef</code> as one more element than <code>in.grids</code> , the first one will be interpreted as an intercept.
<code>cf.digits</code>	integer: number of digits used when converting the coefficients <code>coef</code> to character strings (trailing zeros will be removed)
<code>remove.zeros</code>	logical: if TRUE, terms (grids) with coefficient (numerically) equal to zero (after rounding to <code>cf.digits</code> digits) will be removed from the formula
<code>remove.ones</code>	logical: if TRUE (the default), factors equal to 1 (after rounding to <code>cf.digits</code> digits) will be removed from the formula

## Details

The `in.grids` are represented in the formula by the letters `a` (for `in.grids[1]`), `b` etc. Thus, if `in.grids[1]` is Landsat TM channel 3 and `in.grids[2]` is channel 4, the NDVI formula  $(TM3 - TM4)/(TM3 + TM4)$  can be represented by the character string `"(a-b)/(a+b)"` (any spaces are removed) or the formula `~(a-b)/(a+b)` in the formula argument.

In addition to `+`, `-`, `*`, and `/`, the following operators and functions are available for the formula definition: `^` power + `sin(a)` sine + `cos(a)` cosine + `tan(a)` tangent + `asin(a)` arc sine + `acos(a)` arc cosine + `atan(a)` arc tangent + `atan2(a,b)` arc tangent of `b/a` + `abs(a)` absolute value + `int(a)` convert to integer + `sqr(a)` square + `sqrt(a)` square root + `ln(a)` natural logarithm + `log(a)` base 10 logarithm + `mod(a,b)` modulo + `gt(a, b)` returns 1 if `a` greater `b` + `lt(a, b)` returns 1 if `a` lower `b` + `eq(a, b)` returns 1 if `a` equal `b` + `ifelse(switch, x, y)` returns `x` if `switch` equals 1 else `y`

Using `remove.zeros=FALSE` might have the side effect that no data areas in the grid with coefficient 0 are passed on to the results grid. (To be confirmed.)

## Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (the default) a character vector with the module's console output.

## Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

## See Also

[local.function\(\)](#), [focal.function\(\)](#), and [multi.focal.function\(\)](#) for a more flexible framework for combining grids or applying local and focal functions; [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# using SAGA grids:
# calculate the NDVI from Landsat TM bands 3 and 4:
rsaga.grid.calculus(c("tm3.sgrd", "tm4.sgrd"), "ndvi.sgrd", ~(a-b)/(a+b))
# apply a linear regression equation to grids:
coefs = c(20, -0.6)
# maybe from a linear regression of mean annual air temperature (MAAT)
# against elevation - something like:
# coefs = coef( lm( maat ~ elevation ) )
rsaga.linear.combination("elevation.sgrd", "maat.sgrd", coefs)
# equivalent:
rsaga.grid.calculus("elevation.sgrd", "maat.sgrd", "20 - 0.6*a")

## End(Not run)
```

---

 rsaga.grid.to.points *Convert SAGA grid file to point shapefile*


---

### Description

Convert SAGA grid file to point (or polygon) shapefile - either completely or only a random sample of grid cells.

### Usage

```
rsaga.grid.to.points(
  in.grids,
  out.shapefile,
  in.clip.polygons,
  exclude.nodata = TRUE,
  type = "nodes",
  env = rsaga.env(),
  ...
)
```

```
rsaga.grid.to.points.randomly(in.grid, out.shapefile, freq, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>in.grids</code>	Input: names of (possibly several) SAGA GIS grid files to be converted into a point shapefile.
<code>out.shapefile</code>	Output: point shapefile (default extension: .shp). Existing files will be overwritten!
<code>in.clip.polygons</code>	optional polygon shapefile to be used for clipping/masking an area
<code>exclude.nodata</code>	logical (default: TRUE, in newer SAGA versions numeric (see Note below): skip 'nodata' grid cells?
<code>type</code>	character string: "nodes": create point shapefile of grid center points; "cells" (only supported by SAGA GIS 2.0.6+): create polygon shapefile with grid cell boundaries
<code>env</code>	RSAGA geoprocessing environment created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> ; required by <code>rsaga.grid.to.points</code> to determine version-dependent SAGA module name and arguments
<code>...</code>	Optional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a>
<code>in.grid</code>	Input: SAGA grid file from which to sample.
<code>freq</code>	integer >=1: sampling frequency: on average 1 out of 'freq' grid cells are selected

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#). For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.



**Note**

These functions use modules Grid Cells to Points/Polygons (previously called Grid Values to Points and in some earlier versions Grid Values to Shapes) and Grid Values to Points (randomly) in SAGA library shapes\_grid.

The SAGA 2.0.6+ version of this module is more flexible as it allows to create grid cell polygons instead of center points (see argument type).

Since somewhere between SAGA 9.0.0 and 9.3.3, the NODATA argument is numeric with values of 0: include all cells, 1: include cell if at least one grid provides data, and 2: exclude cell if at least one grid does not provide data. From 9.3.0 up, exclude.nodata=TRUE is interpreted as (and converted to) 1.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA modules)

**See Also**

[rsaga.add.grid.values.to.points\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# one point per grid cell, exclude nodata areas:
rsaga.grid.to.points("dem", "dempoints")
# take only every 20th point, but to not exclude nodata areas:
rsaga.grid.to.points.randomly("dem", "dempoints20", freq = 20)

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.hillshade

*Analytical hillshading Analytical hillshading calculation.*

---

**Description**

Analytical hillshading Analytical hillshading calculation.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.hillshade(
  in.dem,
  out.grid,
  method = "standard",
  azimuth = 315,
  declination = 45,
  exaggeration = 4,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	Input digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default extension: <code>.sgrd</code> ).
<code>out.grid</code>	Output hillshading grid (SAGA grid file). Existing files will be overwritten!
<code>method</code>	Available choices (character or numeric): "standard" (or <code>0</code> - default), "max90deg.standard" (1), "combined.shading" (2), "ray.tracing" (3). See Details.
<code>azimuth</code>	Direction of the light source, measured in degree clockwise from the north direction; default 315, i.e. northwest.
<code>declination</code>	Declination of the light source, measured in degree above the horizon (default 45).
<code>exaggeration</code>	Vertical exaggeration of elevation (default: 4). The terrain exaggeration factor allows to increase the shading contrasts in flat areas.
<code>...</code>	Optional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment.

### Details

The Analytical Hillshading algorithm is based on the angle between the surface and the incoming light beams, measured in radians.

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

### Note

While the default azimuth of 315 degree (northwest) is not physically meaningful on the northern hemisphere, a northwesterly light source is required to properly depict relief in hillshading images. Physically correct southerly light sources results a hillshade that would be considered by most people as inverted: hills look like depressions, mountain chains like troughs.

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

### See Also

`rsaga.solar.radiation()`, `rsaga.insolation()`

### Examples

```
## Not run: rsaga.hillshade("dem.sgrd","hillshade")
```

---

rsaga.html.help      *HTML help on a SAGA module or library*

---

### Description

This function opens SAGA's HTML documentation for the specified library or module. Works with SAGA GIS 2.1.0(+), for earlier versions a web page with the SAGA GIS wiki is displayed.

### Usage

```
rsaga.html.help(  
  lib,  
  module = NULL,  
  use.program.folder = TRUE,  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  ...  
)
```

### Arguments

lib	name of the SAGA library, or one of the rsaga. module functions such as <a href="#">rsaga.hillshade()</a>
module	name or numeric identifier of SAGA module in library lib; module=NULL takes you to the main help page of the SAGA library lib
use.program.folder	logical; if TRUE (the default), attempt to write SAGA GIS documentation to a "help" subfolder of env\$path; the "help" folder is created if it doesn't exist. If FALSE, create SAGA GIS documentation files in this R session's temporary folder as obtained using <a href="#">tempdir()</a>
env	a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a>
...	additional arguments to <a href="#">browseURL()</a>

### Details

Requires SAGA GIS 2.1.0(+), with earlier versions use [rsaga.get.usage\(\)](#).

### Value

Returns nothing

### See Also

[rsaga.get.usage\(\)](#), [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# Requires SAGA GIS 2.1.0+:
rsaga.html.help("io_grid")
rsaga.html.help("io_grid",0)
rsaga.html.help("io_grid","Import ESRI Arc/Info Grid")

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.import.gdal      *Import Grid Files to SAGA grid format using GDAL*

---

## Description

These functions provide simple interfaces for reading and writing grids from/to ASCII grids and Rd files. Grids are stored in matrices, their headers in lists.

## Usage

```
rsaga.import.gdal(in.grid, out.grid, env = rsaga.env(), ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>in.grid</code>	file name of a grid in a format supported by GDAL
<code>out.grid</code>	output SAGA grid file name; defaults to <code>in.grid</code> with the file extension being removed; file extension should not be specified, it defaults to <code>.sgrd</code>
<code>env</code>	RSAGA geoprocessing environment created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a>
<code>...</code>	additional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor</code>

## Details

The GDAL Raster Import module of SAGA imports grid data from various file formats using the Geospatial Data Abstraction Library (GDAL) by Frank Warmerdam. GDAL Versions are specific to SAGA versions:

- SAGA 2.1.2 - 2.2.0: GDAL v.1.11.0
- SAGA 2.2.1 - 2.2.3: GDAL v.2.1.0 dev
- ...
- SAGA 8.4.1: GDAL v3.3.0 More information is available at <https://gdal.org/>.

If `in.grid` has more than one band (e.g. RGB GEOTIFF), then output grids with file names of the form `in.grid_01.sgrd`, `in.grid_02.sgrd` etc. are written, one for each band.

Numerous raster formats are currently supported. For SAGA 8.4.1 see e.g. [https://saga-gis.sourceforge.io/saga\\_tool\\_doc/8.4.1/io\\_gdal\\_0.html](https://saga-gis.sourceforge.io/saga_tool_doc/8.4.1/io_gdal_0.html)

**Value**

the result of the `rsaga.geoprocessor()` call

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad / Andre Ringeler (SAGA module), Frank Warmerdam (GDAL)

**References**

GDAL website: <https://gdal.org/>

**See Also**

`read.ascii.grid`, `rsaga.esri.to.sgrd`, `read.sgrd`, `read.Rd.grid`

---

rsaga.insolation

*Incoming Solar Radiation (Insolation)*

---

**Description**

This function calculates the amount of incoming solar radiation (insolation) depending on slope, aspect, and atmospheric properties. Module not available in SAGA GIS 2.0.6 and 2.0.7.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.insolation(  
  in.dem,  
  in.vapour,  
  in.latitude,  
  in.longitude,  
  out.direct,  
  out.diffuse,  
  out.total,  
  horizontal = FALSE,  
  solconst = 8.164,  
  atmosphere = 12000,  
  water.vapour.pressure = 10,  
  type = c("moment", "day", "range.of.days", "same.moment.range.of.days"),  
  time.step = 1,  
  day.step = 5,  
  days,  
  moment,  
  latitude,  
  bending = FALSE,  
  radius = 6366737.96,  
  lat.offset = "user",
```

```

lat.ref.user = 0,
lon.offset = "center",
lon.ref.user = 0,
env = rsaga.env(),
...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	Name of input digital elevation model (DEM) grid in SAGA grid format (default extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>in.vapour</code>	Optional input: SAGA grid file giving the water vapour pressure in mbar
<code>in.latitude</code>	Optional input: SAGA grid file giving for each pixel the latitude in degree
<code>in.longitude</code>	Optional input: SAGA grid file giving for each pixel the longitude in degree
<code>out.direct</code>	Optional output grid file for direct insolation
<code>out.diffuse</code>	Optional output grid file for diffuse insolation
<code>out.total</code>	Optional output grid file for total insolation, i.e. the sum of direct and diffuse insolation
<code>horizontal</code>	logical; project radiation onto a horizontal surface? (default: FALSE, i.e. use the actual inclined surface as a reference area)
<code>solconst</code>	solar constant in Joule; default: 8.164 J/cm <sup>2</sup> /min (=1360.7 kWh/m <sup>2</sup> ; the more commonly used solar constant of 1367 kWh/m <sup>2</sup> corresponds to 8.202 J/cm <sup>2</sup> /min)
<code>atmosphere</code>	height of atmosphere in m; default: 12000m
<code>water.vapour.pressure</code>	if no water vapour grid is given, this argument specifies a constant water vapour pressure that is uniform in space; in mbar, default 10 mbar
<code>type</code>	type of time period: "moment" (equivalent: 0) for a single instant, "day" (or 1) for a single day, "range.of.days" (or 2), or "same.moment.range.of.days" (or 3) for the same moment in a range of days; default: "moment"
<code>time.step</code>	time resolution in hours for discretization within a day
<code>day.step</code>	time resolution in days for a range of days
<code>days</code>	numeric vector of length 2, specifying the first and last day of a range of days (for types 2 and 3)
<code>moment</code>	if type="moment" or "same.moment.range.of.days", moment specifies the time of the day (hour between 0 and 24) for which the insolation is to be calculated
<code>latitude</code>	if no <code>in.latitude</code> grid is given, this will specify a fixed geographical latitude for the entire grid
<code>bending</code>	should planetary bending be modeled? (default: FALSE)
<code>radius</code>	planetary radius
<code>lat.offset</code>	latitude relates to grids "bottom"(equivalent code: 0), "center" (1), "top" (2), or "user"-defined reference (default: "user"); in the latter case, <code>lat.ref.user</code> defines the reference

lat.ref.user	if in.latitude is missing and lat.offset="user", then this numeric value defines the latitudinal reference (details??)
lon.offset	local time refers to grid's "left" edge (code 0), "center" (1), "right" edge (2), or a "user"-defined reference.
lon.ref.user	if in.longitude is missing and lon.offset="user", then this numeric value defines the reference of the local time (details??)
env	RSAGA geoprocessing environment obtained with <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> ; this argument is required for version control (see Note)
...	optional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment

### Details

Calculation of incoming solar radiation (insolation). Based on the SADO (System for the Analysis of Discrete Surfaces) routines developed by Boehner & Trachinow.

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the intern argument passed to the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#). For intern=FALSE it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

### Note

This function uses module Insolation (code: 3) from SAGA library ta\_lighting. It is available in SAGA GIS 2.0.4 and 2.0.5 but not 2.0.6 and 2.0.7; see [rsaga.pisr\(\)](#).

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

### See Also

[rsaga.solar.radiation\(\)](#), [rsaga.pisr\(\)](#), [rsaga.hillshade\(\)](#)

---

rsaga.intersect.polygons

*Spatial intersection of two polygon layers*

---

### Description

The function `rsaga.intersect.polygons` calculates the geometric intersection of two overlaid polygon layers using SAGA module "Intersect".

**Usage**

```
rsaga.intersect.polygons(  
  layer_a = NULL,  
  layer_b = NULL,  
  result = NULL,  
  split = FALSE,  
  load = NULL,  
  env = rsaga.env()  
)
```

**Arguments**

layer_a	A character string representing the path to a polygon shapefile.
layer_b	A character string representing the path to a polygon shapefile with which to intersect layer_a.
result	A character string indicating where the resulting shapefile should be stored.
split	If TRUE, multipart polygons become separated polygons (default: FALSE).
load	Deprecated, will be removed in a future release. Ignored if FALSE, and causes an error if TRUE (default: NULL).
env	RSAGA geoprocessing environment created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> .

**Details**

Function `gIntersection` in `rgeos` package can also be used to define the intersection between two polygon layers. However, [rsaga.intersect.polygons\(\)](#) will be usually much faster, especially when intersecting thousands of polygons.

**Value**

The function saves the output shapefile to the path indicated in function argument `result`.

**Author(s)**

Jannes Muenchow and Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad and Angus Johnson (SAGA modules)

---

rsaga.inverse.distance

*Spatial Interpolation Methods*

---

**Description**

Spatial interpolation of point data using inverse distance to a power (inverse distance weighting, IDW), nearest neighbors, or modified quadratic shephard.



**Usage**

```
rsaga.inverse.distance(  
    in.shapefile,  
    out.grid,  
    field,  
    power = 1,  
    maxdist,  
    nmax = 100,  
    target,  
    env = rsaga.env(),  
    ...  
)  
  
rsaga.nearest.neighbour(  
    in.shapefile,  
    out.grid,  
    field,  
    target,  
    env = rsaga.env(),  
    ...  
)  
  
rsaga.modified.quadratic.shephard(  
    in.shapefile,  
    out.grid,  
    field,  
    quadratic.neighbors = 13,  
    weighting.neighbors = 19,  
    target,  
    env = rsaga.env(),  
    ...  
)  
  
rsaga.triangulation(  
    in.shapefile,  
    out.grid,  
    field,  
    target,  
    env = rsaga.env(),  
    ...  
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>in.shapefile</code>	Input: point shapefile (default extension: .shp).
<code>out.grid</code>	Output: filename for interpolated grid (SAGA grid file). Existing files will be overwritten!

<code>field</code>	numeric or character: number or name of attribute in the shapefile's attribute table to be interpolated; the first attribute is represented by a zero.
<code>power</code>	numeric (>0): exponent used in inverse distance weighting (usually 1 or 2)
<code>maxdist</code>	numeric: maximum distance of points to be used for inverse distance interpolation (search radius); no search radius is applied when this argument is missing or equals Inf
<code>nmax</code>	Maximum number of nearest points to be used for interpolation; <code>nmax=Inf</code> is a valid value (no upper limit)
<code>target</code>	required argument of type list: parameters identifying the target area, e.g. the x/y extent and cellsize, or name of a reference grid; see <a href="#">rsaga.target()</a> .
<code>env</code>	RSAGA geoprocessing environment created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> , required because module(s) depend(s) on SAGA version
<code>...</code>	Optional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment.
<code>quadratic.neighbors</code>	integer >=5; default 13.
<code>weighting.neighbors</code>	integer >=3; default 19.

### Details

These functions use modules from the `grid_gridding` SAGA GIS library. They do not support SAGA GIS 2.0.4, which differs in some argument names and parameterizations. Target grid parameterization by grid file name currently doesn't work with SAGA GIS 2.1.0 Release Candidate 1 (see also [rsaga.target\(\)](#)); stay tuned for future updates and fixes.

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#). For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

### Note

The 'Inverse Distance Weighted' module of SAGA GIS not only support inverse-distance weighted interpolation, but also exponential and other weighting schemes (command line argument `WEIGHTING`); these are however not accessible through this function, but only through the `rsaga.geoprocessor`, if needed. See `rsaga.get.usage("grid_gridding", "Inverse Distance Weighted")` for details.

See the example section in the help file for [shapefiles::write.shapefile\(\)](#) in package `shapefiles` to learn how to apply these interpolation functions to a shapefile exported from a `data.frame`.

Modified Quadratic Shepard method: based on module 660 in TOMS (see references).

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Andre Ringeler and Olaf Conrad (SAGA modules)

## References

QSHEP2D: Fortran routines implementing the Quadratic Shepard method for bivariate interpolation of scattered data (see R. J. Renka, ACM TOMS 14 (1988) pp.149-150). Classes: E2b. Interpolation of scattered, non-gridded multivariate data.

## See Also

[rsaga.target\(\)](#); [gstat::idw\(\)](#) in package `gstat`.

---

`rsaga.lib.prefix`      *Determine prefix for SAGA GIS library names*

---

## Description

Internal function that determines the possible prefix for SAGA GIS library names - relevant for non-Windows SAGA GIS pre-2.1.0.

## Usage

```
rsaga.lib.prefix(env)
```

## Arguments

`env`                    list, setting up a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by [rsaga.env\(\)](#).

## Details

Some non-Windows versions of `saga_cmd` require library names with a "lib" prefix, e.g. `libio_grid` instead of `io_grid`. This function, which is called by [rsaga.env\(\)](#) tries to guess this behavior based on the operating system and SAGA GIS version.

## Value

A character string, either "" or "lib".

## See Also

[rsaga.env\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
env = rsaga.env()
# obtained by a call to rsaga.lib.prefix:
env$lib.prefix

# more explicitly:
rsaga.lib.prefix(env=env)

## End(Not run)
```

---

`rsaga.local.morphometry`*Local Morphometry*

---

**Description**

Calculates local morphometric terrain attributes (i.e. slope, aspect and curvatures). Intended for use with SAGA versions 2.1.0 and older. Use [rsaga.slope.asp.curv\(\)](#) for SAGA 2.1.1+

**Usage**

```
rsaga.local.morphometry(  
  in.dem,  
  out.slope,  
  out.aspect,  
  out.curv,  
  out.hcurv,  
  out.vcurv,  
  method = "poly2zevenbergen",  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  ...  
)  
  
rsaga.slope(  
  in.dem,  
  out.slope,  
  method = "poly2zevenbergen",  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  ...  
)  
  
rsaga.aspect(  
  in.dem,  
  out.aspect,  
  method = "poly2zevenbergen",  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  ...  
)  
  
rsaga.curvature(  
  in.dem,  
  out.curv,  
  method = "poly2zevenbergen",  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  ...  
)
```

```

rsaga.plan.curvature(
  in.dem,
  out.hcurv,
  method = "poly2zevenbergen",
  env = rsaga.env(),
  ...
)

rsaga.profile.curvature(
  in.dem,
  out.vcurv,
  method = "poly2zevenbergen",
  env = rsaga.env(),
  ...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	input: digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default file extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>out.slope</code>	optional output: slope (in radians)
<code>out.aspect</code>	optional output: aspect (in radians; north=0, clockwise angles)
<code>out.curv</code>	optional output: curvature
<code>out.hcurv</code>	optional output: horizontal curvature (plan curvature)
<code>out.vcurv</code>	optional output: vertical curvature (profile curvature)
<code>method</code>	character (or numeric): algorithm (see References): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 Maximum Slope - Travis et al. (1975) ("maxslope", or 0)</li> <li>• 1 Max. Triangle Slope - Tarboton (1997) ("maxtriangleslope", or 1)</li> <li>• 2 Least Squares Fit Plane - Costa-Cabral and Burgess (1996) ("lsqfitplane", or 2)</li> <li>• 3 Fit 2nd Degree Polynomial - Bauer et al. (1985) ("poly2bauer", or 3)</li> <li>• 4 Fit 2nd Degree Polynomial - Heerdegen and Beran (1982) ("poly2heerdegen", or 4)</li> <li>• 5 default: Fit 2nd Degree Polynomial - Zevenbergen and Thorne (1987) ("poly2zevenbergen", or 5)</li> <li>• 6 Fit 3rd Degree Polynomial - Haralick (1983) ("poly3haralick", or 6).</li> </ul>
<code>env</code>	list, setting up a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <code>rsaga.env()</code>
<code>...</code>	further arguments to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code>

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning and Donovan Bangs (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

**References**

For references and algorithm changes in SAGA GIS 2.1.1+ see [rsaga.slope.asp.curv\(\)](#).

**See Also**

[rsaga.slope.asp.curv\(\)](#), [rsaga.parallel.processing\(\)](#), [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# a simple slope algorithm:
rsaga.slope("lican.sgrd", "slope", "maxslope")
# same for ASCII grids (default extension .asc):
rsaga.esri.wrapper(rsaga.slope, in.dem="lican", out.slope="slope", method="maxslope")

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.parallel.processing

*Parallel Processing*

---

**Description**

Calculate the size of the local catchment area (contributing area), the catchment height, catchment slope and aspect, and flow path length, using parallel processing algorithms including the recommended multiple flow direction algorithm. This set of algorithms processes a digital elevation model (DEM) downwards from the highest to the lowest cell.

No longer supported with SAGA GIS 2.1.3+. See [rsaga.topdown.processing\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
rsaga.parallel.processing(
  in.dem,
  in.sinkroute,
  in.weight,
  out.carea,
  out.cheight,
  out.cslope,
  out.caspect,
  out.flowpath,
  step,
  method = "mfd",
  linear.threshold = Inf,
```

```

    convergence = 1.1,
    env = rsaga.env(),
    ...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	input: digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default file extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>in.sinkroute</code>	optional input: SAGA grid with sink routes
<code>in.weight</code>	optional input: SAGA grid with weights
<code>out.carea</code>	output: catchment area grid
<code>out.cheight</code>	optional output: catchment height grid
<code>out.cslope</code>	optional output: catchment slope grid
<code>out.caspect</code>	optional output: catchment aspect grid
<code>out.flowpath</code>	optional output: flow path length grid
<code>step</code>	integer $\geq 1$ : step parameter
<code>method</code>	character or numeric: choice of processing algorithm: Deterministic 8 (" <code>d8</code> " or 0), Rho 8 (" <code>rho8</code> " or 1), Braunschweiger Reliefmodell (" <code>braunschweig</code> " or 2), Deterministic Infinity (" <code>dinf</code> " or 3), Multiple Flow Direction (" <code>mfd</code> " or 4, the default), Multiple Triangular Flow Direction (" <code>mtfd</code> ", or 5).
<code>linear.threshold</code>	numeric (number of grid cells): threshold above which linear flow (i.e. the Deterministic 8 algorithm) will be used; linear flow is disabled for <code>linear.threshold=Inf</code> (the default)
<code>convergence</code>	numeric $\geq 0$ : a parameter for tuning convergent/ divergent flow; default value of 1.1 gives realistic results and should not be changed
<code>env</code>	list, setting up a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <code>rsaga.env()</code>
<code>...</code>	further arguments to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code>

### Details

Refer to the references for details on the available algorithms.

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (the default) a character vector with the module's console output.

### Note

This function uses module Parallel Processing (version 2.0.7+: Catchment Area (Parallel) from SAGA library `ta_hydrology`.

The SAGA GIS 2.0.6+ version of the module adds more (optional) input and output grids that are currently not supported by this wrapper function. Use `rsaga.geoprocessor()` for access to these options, and see `rsaga.get.usage("ta_hydrology", "Catchment Area (Parallel)")` for information on new arguments.

### Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module), Thomas Grabs (MTFD algorithm)

### References

Deterministic 8:

O'Callaghan, J.F., Mark, D.M. (1984): The extraction of drainage networks from digital elevation data. *Computer Vision, Graphics and Image Processing*, 28: 323-344.

Rho 8:

Fairfield, J., Leymarie, P. (1991): Drainage networks from grid digital elevation models. *Water Resources Research*, 27: 709-717.

Braunschweiger Reliefmodell:

Bauer, J., Rohdenburg, H., Bork, H.-R. (1985): Ein Digitales Reliefmodell als Voraussetzung fuer ein deterministisches Modell der Wasser- und Stoff-Fluesse. *Landschafts- und Landschaftsoekologie*, H. 10, Parametereaufbereitung fuer deterministische Gebiets-Wassermodelle, Grundlagenarbeiten zu Analyse von Agrar-Oekosystemen, eds.: Bork, H.-R., Rohdenburg, H., p. 1-15.

Deterministic Infinity:

Tarboton, D.G. (1997): A new method for the determination of flow directions and upslope areas in grid digital elevation models. *Water Resources Research*, 33(2): 309-319.

Multiple Flow Direction:

Freeman, G.T. (1991): Calculating catchment area with divergent flow based on a regular grid. *Computers and Geosciences*, 17: 413-22.

Quinn, P.F., Beven, K.J., Chevallier, P., Planchon, O. (1991): The prediction of hillslope flow paths for distributed hydrological modelling using digital terrain models. *Hydrological Processes*, 5: 59-79.

Multiple Triangular Flow Direction:

Seibert, J., McGlynn, B. (2007): A new triangular multiple flow direction algorithm for computing upslope areas from gridded digital elevation models. *Water Resources Research*, 43, W04501.

### See Also

[rsaga.topdown.processing\(\)](#), [rsaga.wetness.index\(\)](#), [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
# SAGA GIS 2.0.6+:
rsaga.get.usage("ta_hydrology", "Catchment Area (Parallel)")
# earlier versions of SAGA GIS:
#rsaga.get.usage("ta_hydrology", "Parallel Processing")
```



```
# execute model with typical settings:
rsaga.parallel.processing(in.dem = "dem", out.carea = "carea", out.cslope = "cslope")
# cslope is in radians - convert to degree:
fac = round(180/pi, 4)
formula = paste(fac, "*a", sep = "")
rsaga.grid.calculus("cslope", "cslopedeg", formula)

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.pisr

*Potential incoming solar radiation*


---

### Description

This function calculates the potential incoming solar radiation in an area using different atmospheric models; module available in SAGA GIS 2.0.6+.

### Usage

```
rsaga.pisr(
  in.dem,
  in.svf.grid = NULL,
  in.vapour.grid = NULL,
  in.latitude.grid = NULL,
  in.longitude.grid = NULL,
  out.direct.grid,
  out.diffuse.grid,
  out.total.grid = NULL,
  out.ratio.grid = NULL,
  out.duration,
  out.sunrise,
  out.sunset,
  local.svf = TRUE,
  latitude,
  unit = c("kWh/m2", "kJ/m2", "J/cm2"),
  solconst = 1367,
  enable.bending = FALSE,
  bending.radius = 6366737.96,
  bending.lat.offset = "user",
  bending.lat.ref.user = 0,
  bending.lon.offset = "center",
  bending.lon.ref.user = 0,
  method = c("height", "components", "lumped"),
  hgt.atmosphere = 12000,
  hgt.water.vapour.pressure = 10,
  cmp.pressure = 1013,
  cmp.water.content = 1.68,
  cmp.dust = 100,
```

```

    lmp.transmittance = 70,
    time.range = c(0, 24),
    time.step = 0.5,
    start.date = list(day = 21, month = 3),
    end.date = NULL,
    day.step = 5,
    env = rsaga.env(),
    ...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	name of input digital elevation model (DEM) grid in SAGA grid format (default extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>in.svf.grid</code>	Optional input grid in SAGA format: Sky View Factor; see also <code>local.svf</code>
<code>in.vapour.grid</code>	Optional input grid in SAGA format: Water vapour pressure (mbar); see also argument <code>hgt.water.vapour.pressure</code>
<code>in.latitude.grid</code>	Optional input grid in SAGA format: Latitude (degree) of each grid cell
<code>in.longitude.grid</code>	see <code>in.latitude.grid</code>
<code>out.direct.grid</code>	Output grid: Direct insolation (unit selected by unit argument)
<code>out.diffuse.grid</code>	Output grid: Diffuse insolation
<code>out.total.grid</code>	Optional output grid: Total insolation, i.e. sum of direct and diffuse incoming solar radiation
<code>out.ratio.grid</code>	Optional output grid: Direct to diffuse ratio
<code>out.duration</code>	Optional output grid: Duration of insolation
<code>out.sunrise</code>	Optional output grid: time of sunrise; only calculated if time span is set to single day
<code>out.sunset</code>	Time of sunset; see <code>out.sunrise</code>
<code>local.svf</code>	logical (default: TRUE; if TRUE, use sky view factor based on local slope (after Oke, 1988), if no sky view factor grid is provided in <code>in.svf.grid</code> )
<code>latitude</code>	Geographical latitude in degree North (negative values indicate southern hemisphere)
<code>unit</code>	unit of insolation output grids: "kWh/m2" (default) "kJ/m2", or "J/cm2"
<code>solconst</code>	solar constant, defaults to 1367 W/m2
<code>enable.bending</code>	logical (default: FALSE): incorporate effects of planetary bending?
<code>bending.radius</code>	Planetary radius, default 6366737.96
<code>bending.lat.offset</code>	if bending is enabled: latitudinal reference is "user"-defined (default), or relative to "top", "center" or "bottom" of grid?

bending.lat.ref.user	user-defined lat. reference for bending, see bending.lat.offset
bending.lon.offset	longitudinal reference, i.e. local time, is "user"-defined, or relative to "top", "center" (default) or "bottom" of grid?
bending.lon.ref.user	user-defined reference for local time (Details??)
method	specifies how the atmospheric components should be accounted for: either based on the height of atmosphere and vapour pressure ("height", or numeric code 0), or air pressure, water and dust content ("components", code 1), or lumped atmospheric transmittance ("lumped", code 0)
hgt.atmosphere	Height of atmosphere (in m); default 12000 m
hgt.water.vapour.pressure	Water vapour pressure in mbar (default 10 mbar); This value is used if no vapour pressure grid is given in argument in.vapour.grid
cmp.pressure	atmospheric pressure in mbar, defaults to 1013 mbar
cmp.water.content	water content of a vertical slice of the atmosphere in cm: between 1.5 and 1.7cm, average 1.68cm (default)
cmp.dust	dust factor in ppm; defaults to 100 ppm
lmp.transmittance	transmittance of the atmosphere in percent; usually between 60 (humid areas) and 80 percent (deserts)
time.range	numeric vector of length 2: time span (hours of the day) for numerical integration
time.step	time step in hours for numerical integration
start.date	list of length two, giving the start date in day and month components as numbers; these numbers are one-based (SAGA_CMD uses zero-based numbers internally), i.e. Jan. 1st is list(day=1,month=1)
end.date	see start.date
day.step	if days indicates a range of days, this specifies the time step (number of days) for calculating the incoming solar radiation
env	RSAGA geoprocessing environment obtained with <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> ; this argument is required for version control (see Note)
...	optional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a>

### Details

According to SAGA GIS 2.0.7 documentation, "Most options should do well, but TAPES-G based diffuse irradiance calculation ("Atmospheric Effects" methods 2 and 3) needs further revision!" I.e. be careful with method = "components" and method = "lumped".

### Value

The type of object returned depends on the intern argument passed to the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#). For intern=FALSE it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

**Note**

This module is computationally very intensive (depending on the size of the grid and the time resolution, of course). The performance seems to have much improved in SAGA GIS 2.1.0, which by default runs this module in multicore mode (at the release candidate 1 for Windows does).

SAGA\_CMD uses zero-based days and months, but this R function uses the standard one-based days and months (e.g. day 1 is the first day of the month, month 1 is January) and translates to the SAGA system.

This function uses module Potential Incoming Solar Radiation from SAGA library `ta_lighting` in SAGA version 2.0.6+.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

**References**

Boehner, J., Antonic, O. (2009): Land surface parameters specific to topo-climatology. In: Hengl, T. and Reuter, H. I. (eds.): Geomorphometry - Concepts, Software, Applications. Elsevier.

Oke, T.R. (1988): Boundary layer climates. London, Taylor and Francis.

Wilson, J.P., Gallant, J.C. (eds.), 2000: Terrain analysis - principles and applications. New York, John Wiley and Sons.

**See Also**

[rsaga.hillshade\(\)](#); for similar modules in older SAGA versions (pre-2.0.6) see [rsaga.solar.radiation\(\)](#) and [rsaga.insolation\(\)](#)

---

rsaga.pisr2

*Potential incoming solar radiation SAGA 2.2.2+*

---

**Description**

This function calculates the potential incoming solar radiation in an area using different atmospheric models; This function reflects changes to the module with SAGA 2.2.2+. For SAGA versions 2.0.6 to 2.2.1 please see [rsaga.pisr\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
rsaga.pisr2(  
  in.dem,  
  in.svf.grid = NULL,  
  in.vapour.grid = NULL,  
  in.linke.grid = NULL,  
  out.direct.grid,  
  out.diffuse.grid,  
  out.total.grid = NULL,
```

```

out.ratio.grid = NULL,
out.duration,
out.sunrise,
out.sunset,
local.svf = TRUE,
location = c("latitude", "grid"),
latitude = 53,
unit = c("kWh/m2", "kJ/m2", "J/cm2"),
shadow = c("slim", "fat", "none"),
solconst = 1367,
method = c("height", "components", "lumped", "hofierka"),
linke.default = 3,
vapour.default = 10,
hgt.atmosphere = 12000,
cmp.pressure = 1013,
cmp.water.content = 1.68,
cmp.dust = 100,
lmp.transmittance = 70,
time.range = c(0, 24),
time.step = 0.5,
start.date = list(day = 31, month = 10, year = 2015),
end.date = NULL,
day.step = 5,
env = rsaga.env(),
...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	name of input digital elevation model (DEM) grid in SAGA grid format (default extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>in.svf.grid</code>	Optional input grid in SAGA format: Sky View Factor; see also <code>local.svf</code>
<code>in.vapour.grid</code>	Optional input grid in SAGA format: Water vapour pressure (mbar), for use with <code>method = "height"</code> ; default 10 mbar
<code>in.linke.grid</code>	Optional input grid in SAGA format: Linke turbidity coefficient, for use with <code>method = "hofierka"</code> ; default 3.0
<code>out.direct.grid</code>	Output grid: Direct insolation (unit selected by <code>unit</code> argument)
<code>out.diffuse.grid</code>	Output grid: Diffuse insolation
<code>out.total.grid</code>	Optional output grid: Total insolation, i.e. sum of direct and diffuse incoming solar radiation
<code>out.ratio.grid</code>	Optional output grid: Direct to diffuse ratio
<code>out.duration</code>	Optional output grid: Duration of insolation.
<code>out.sunrise</code>	Optional output grid: time of sunrise; only calculated if time span is set to single day

<code>out.sunset</code>	Time of sunset; see <code>out.sunrise</code>
<code>local.svf</code>	logical (default: TRUE; if TRUE, use sky view factor based on local slope (after Oke, 1988), if no sky view factor grid is provided in <code>in.svf.grid</code> )
<code>location</code>	specified whether to use constant latitude supplied by <code>latitude</code> below (" <code>latitude</code> " or code 0; default) or as calculated from the grid system (" <code>grid</code> " or code 1)
<code>latitude</code>	Geographical latitude in degree North (negative values indicate southern hemisphere)
<code>unit</code>	unit of insolation output grids: " <code>kWh/m2</code> " (default) " <code>kJ/m2</code> ", or " <code>J/cm2</code> "
<code>shadow</code>	specifies how topographic shading is modeled: " <code>slim</code> " (or numeric code 0), " <code>fat</code> " (or code 1; the default), or " <code>none</code> " (code 2). Quoting SAGA 7.8.2 help: Choose ' <code>slim</code> ' to trace grid node's shadow, ' <code>fat</code> ' to trace the whole cell's shadow, or ignore shadowing effects. The first is slightly faster but might show some artifacts. (End quote.)
<code>solconst</code>	solar constant, defaults to 1367 W/m2
<code>method</code>	specifies how the atmospheric components should be accounted for: either based on the height of atmosphere and vapour pressure (" <code>height</code> ", or numeric code 0), or air pressure, water and dust content (" <code>components</code> ", code 1), or lumped atmospheric transmittance (" <code>lumped</code> ", code 2), or by the method of Hofierka and Suri, 2009 (" <code>hofierka</code> ", code 3). Default: " <code>lumped</code> ".
<code>linke.default</code>	SAGA argument <code>GRD_LINKE_DEFAULT</code> , defaults to 3.0
<code>vapour.default</code>	SAGA argument <code>GRD_VAPOUR_DEFAULT</code> , defaults to 10.0
<code>hgt.atmosphere</code>	Height of atmosphere (in m); default 12000 m. For use with <code>method = "height"</code>
<code>cmp.pressure</code>	atmospheric pressure in mbar, defaults to 1013 mbar. For use with <code>method = "components"</code>
<code>cmp.water.content</code>	water content of a vertical slice of the atmosphere in cm: between 1.5 and 1.7cm, average 1.68cm (default). For use with <code>method = "components"</code>
<code>cmp.dust</code>	dust factor in ppm; defaults to 100 ppm. For use with <code>method = "components"</code>
<code>lmp.transmittance</code>	transmittance of the atmosphere in percent; usually between 60 (humid areas) and 80 percent (deserts)
<code>time.range</code>	numeric vector of length 2: time span (hours of the day) for numerical integration
<code>time.step</code>	time step in hours for numerical integration
<code>start.date</code>	list of length three, giving the start date in day, month, and year components as numbers, i.e. Jan. 1st 2015 is <code>list(day=1,month=1,year=2015)</code>
<code>end.date</code>	see <code>start.date</code>
<code>day.step</code>	if days indicates a range of days, this specifies the time step (number of days) for calculating the incoming solar radiation
<code>env</code>	RSAGA geoprocessing environment obtained with <code>rsaga.env()</code> ; this argument is required for version control (see Note)
<code>...</code>	optional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code>

## Details

According to SAGA GIS 2.0.7 documentation, "Most options should do well, but TAPES-G based diffuse irradiance calculation ("Atmospheric Effects" methods 2 and 3) needs further revision!" I.e. be careful with `method = "components"` and `method = "lumped"`.

## Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

## Note

This function uses module Potential Incoming Solar Radiation from SAGA library `ta_lighting` in SAGA versions >2.2.3. Duration of insolation ("`out.duration`") is only calculated when the time period is set to a single day.

The SAGA module in version 8.5.x does not correctly use the date arguments; it is therefore not supported. Several SAGA versions >=8.6.0 and <8.5.0 did, however, produce plausible results and correctly interpreted the date arguments according to output shown when `show.output.on.console=TRUE` was used.

## Author(s)

Alexander Brenning & Donovan Bangs (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

## References

Boehner, J., Antonic, O. (2009): Land surface parameters specific to topo-climatology. In: Hengl, T. and Reuter, H. I. (eds.): Geomorphometry - Concepts, Software, Applications. Elsevier.

Oke, T.R. (1988): Boundary layer climates. London, Taylor and Francis.

Wilson, J.P., Gallant, J.C. (eds.), 2000: Terrain analysis - principles and applications. New York, John Wiley and Sons.

Hofierka, J., Suri, M. (2002): The solar radiation model for Open source GIS: implementation and applications. International GRASS users conference in Trento, Italy, September 2002

## See Also

`rsaga.pisr()`; for similar modules in older SAGA versions (pre-2.0.6) see `rsaga.solar.radiation()` and `rsaga.insolation()`; `rsaga.hillshade()`

---

rsaga.set.env	<i>Internal function that sets the RSAGA Geoprocessing Environment manually</i>
---------------	---

---

## Description

Internal function that sets the RSAGA Geoprocessing Environment manually

## Usage

```
rsaga.set.env(
  workspace = NULL,
  cmd = NULL,
  path = NULL,
  modules = NULL,
  version = NA,
  cores = NULL,
  parallel = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

workspace	path of the working directory for SAGA; defaults to the current directory (" . ").
cmd	name of the SAGA command line program; defaults to saga_cmd.exe, its name under Windows
path	path in which to find cmd; rsaga.env is usually able to find SAGA on your system if it is installed; see Details.
modules	path in which to find SAGA libraries; see Details
version	optional character string: SAGA GIS (API) version, e.g. "2.0.8"; if missing, a call to <a href="#">rsaga.get.version()</a> is used to determine version number of SAGA API
cores	optional numeric argument, or NA: number of cores used by SAGA GIS; supported only by SAGA GIS 2.1.0 (and higher), ignored otherwise (with a warning). Multicore-enabled SAGA GIS modules such as the one used by <a href="#">rsaga.pisr()</a> seem to run in multicore mode by default when this argument is not specified, therefore cores should only be specified to use a smaller number of cores than available on a machine.
parallel	optional logical argument (default: FALSE): if TRUE, run RSAGA functions that are capable of parallel processing in parallel mode; note that this is completely independent of the behavior of SAGA GIS (which can be controlled using the cores argument); currently only some RSAGA functions support parallel processing (e.g., <a href="#">pick.from.ascii.grid()</a> or <a href="#">rsaga.get.modules()</a> ). parallel=TRUE requires that a parallel backend such as <b>doSNOW</b> or <b>doMC</b> is available and has been started prior to calling any parallelized RSAGA function, otherwise warnings may be generated



**Value**

a list containing the above information

---

rsaga.sgrd.to.esri      *Convert SAGA grids to ESRI ASCII/binary grids*

---

**Description**

rsaga.sgrd.to.esri converts grid files from SAGA's (version 2) grid format (.sgrd) to ESRI's ASCII (.asc) and binary (.flt) format.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.sgrd.to.esri(
  in.sgrds,
  out.grids,
  out.path,
  format = "ascii",
  georef = "corner",
  prec = 5,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

in.sgrds	character vector of SAGA grid files (.sgrd) to be converted; files are expected to be found in folder <code>rsaga.env()\$workspace</code> , or, if an optional env argument is provided, in <code>env\$workspace</code>
out.grids	character vector of ESRI ASCII/float output file names; defaults to in.sgrds with the file extension being replaced by .asc or .flt, depending on format. Files will be placed in folder out.path, existing files will be overwritten
out.path	folder for out.grids
format	output file format, either "ascii" (default; equivalent: format=1) for ASCII grids or "binary" (equivalent: 0) for binary ESRI grids (.flt).
georef	character: "corner" (equivalent numeric code: 0) or "center" (default; equivalent: 1). Determines whether the georeference will be related to the center or corner of its extreme lower left grid cell.
prec	number of digits when writing floating point values to ASCII grid files; either a single number (to be replicated if necessary), or a numeric vector of length <code>length(in.grids)</code>
...	optional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment

**Value**

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

**Note**

This function uses module 0 from the SAGA library `io_grid`.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

**See Also**

`rsaga.esri.wrapper()` for an efficient way of applying RSAGA to ESRI ASCII/binary grids;  
`rsaga.env()`

---

<code>rsaga.sink.removal</code>	<i>Sink Removal Remove sinks from a digital elevation model by deepening drainage routes or filling sinks.</i>
---------------------------------	--

---

**Description**

Sink Removal Remove sinks from a digital elevation model by deepening drainage routes or filling sinks.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.sink.removal(in.dem, in.sinkroute, out.dem, method = "fill", ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>in.dem</code>	input: digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default file extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>in.sinkroute</code>	optional input: sink route grid file
<code>out.dem</code>	output: modified DEM
<code>method</code>	character string or numeric value specifying the algorithm (partial string matching will be applied): "deepen drainage route" (or 0): reduce the elevation of pixels in order to achieve drainage out of the former sinks "fill sinks" (or 1): fill sinks until none are left
<code>...</code>	optional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code> , including the env RSAGA geoprocessing environment

**Value**

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

**Note**

This function uses module 1 from SAGA library `ta_preprocessor`.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

**See Also**

[rsaga.sink.route\(\)](#), [rsaga.fill.sinks\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run: rsaga.sink.route("dem","sinkroute")
rsaga.sink.removal("dem","sinkroute","dem-preproc",method="deepen")
## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.sink.route	<i>Sink Drainage Route Detection</i>
------------------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Sink drainage route detection.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.sink.route(in.dem, out.sinkroute, threshold, thrsheight = 100, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>in.dem</code>	input: digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default file extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>out.sinkroute</code>	output: sink route grid file: non-sinks obtain a value of 0, sinks are assigned an integer between 0 and 8 indicating the direction to which flow from this sink should be routed
<code>threshold</code>	logical: use a threshold value?
<code>thrsheight</code>	numeric: threshold value (default: 100)
<code>...</code>	optional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a> , including the env <code>RSAGA</code> geoprocessing environment

**Value**

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

**Note**

I assume that flow directions are coded as 0 = north, 1 = northeast, 2 = east, ..., 7 = northwest, as in `rsaga.fill.sinks()`.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

**See Also**

[rsaga.sink.removal\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run: rsaga.sink.route("dem","sinkroute")
rsaga.sink.removal("dem","sinkroute","dem-preproc",method="deepen")
## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.slope.asp.curv *Slope, Aspect, Curvature*

---

**Description**

Calculates local morphometric terrain attributes (i.e. slope, aspect, and curvatures). Intended for use with SAGA v 2.1.1+. For older versions use [rsaga.local.morphometry\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
rsaga.slope.asp.curv(
  in.dem,
  out.slope,
  out.aspect,
  out.cgene,
  out.cprof,
  out.cplan,
  out.ctang,
  out.clong,
  out.ccros,
  out.cmini,
  out.cmaxi,
  out.ctota,
```

```

    out.croto,
    method = "poly2zevenbergen",
    unit.slope = "radians",
    unit.aspect = "radians",
    env = rsaga.env(),
    ...
)

```

## Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	input: digital elevation model as SAGA grid file (.sgrd)
<code>out.slope</code>	optional output: slope
<code>out.aspect</code>	optional output: aspect
<code>out.cgene</code>	optional output: general curvature (1 / map units)
<code>out.cprof</code>	optional output: profile curvature (vertical curvature; 1 / map units)
<code>out.cplan</code>	optional output: plan curvature (horizontal curvature; 1 / map units)
<code>out.ctang</code>	optional output: tangential curvature (1 / map units)
<code>out.clong</code>	optional output: longitudinal curvature (1 / map units) Zevenbergen & Thorne (1987) refer to this as profile curvature
<code>out.ccros</code>	optional output: cross-sectional curvature (1 / map units) Zevenbergen & Thorne (1987) refer to this as the plan curvature
<code>out.cmini</code>	optional output: minimal curvature (1 / map units)
<code>out.cmaxi</code>	optional output: maximal curvature (1 / map units)
<code>out.ctota</code>	optional output: total curvature (1 / map units)
<code>out.croto</code>	optional output: flow line curvature (1 / map units)
<code>method</code>	character algorithm (see References): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 Maximum Slope - Travis et al. (1975) ("maxslope")</li> <li>• 1 Max. Triangle Slope - Tarboton (1997) ("maxtriangleslope")</li> <li>• 2 Least Squares Fit Plane - Costa-Cabral &amp; Burgess (1996) ("lsqfitplane")</li> <li>• 3 Fit 2nd Degree Polynomial - Evans (1979) ("poly2evans")</li> <li>• 4 Fit 2nd Degree Polynomial - Heerdegen and Beran (1982) ("poly2heerdegen")</li> <li>• 5 Fit 2nd Degree Polynomial - Bauer et al. (1985) ("poly2bauer")</li> <li>• 6 default: Fit 2nd Degree Polynomial - Zevenbergen &amp; Thorne (1987) ("poly2zevenbergen")</li> <li>• 7 Fit 3rd Degree Polynomial - Haralick (1983) ("poly3haralick")</li> </ul>
<code>unit.slope</code>	character or numeric (default "radians"): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 "radians"</li> <li>• 1 "degrees"</li> <li>• 2 "percent"</li> </ul>
<code>unit.aspect</code>	character or numeric (default is 0, or "radians"): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 "radians"</li> <li>• 1 "degrees"</li> </ul>
<code>env</code>	list, setting up a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <code>rsaga.env()</code>
<code>...</code>	further arguments to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code>

## Details

Profile and plan curvature calculation (out.cprof, out.cplan) changed in SAGA GIS 2.1.1+ compared to earlier versions. See the following thread on sourceforge.net for an ongoing discussion: <https://sourceforge.net/p/saga-gis/discussion/354013/thread/e9d07075/#5727>

## Value

The type of object returned depends on the intern argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For intern=FALSE it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

## Author(s)

Alexander Brenning and Donovan Bangs (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

## References

General references:

Jones KH (1998) A comparison of algorithms used to compute hill slope as a property of the DEM. *Computers and Geosciences*. 24 (4): 315-323.

References on specific methods:

Maximum Slope:

Travis, M.R., Elsner, G.H., Iverson, W.D., Johnson, C.G. (1975): VIEWIT: computation of seen areas, slope, and aspect for land-use planning. USDA F.S. Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-11/1975, 70 p. Berkeley, California, U.S.A.

Maximum Triangle Slope:

Tarboton, D.G. (1997): A new method for the determination of flow directions and upslope areas in grid digital elevation models. *Water Resources Research*, 33(2): 309-319.

Least Squares or Best Fit Plane:

Beasley, D.B., Huggins, L.F. (1982): ANSWERS: User's manual. U.S. EPA-905/9-82-001, Chicago, IL, 54 pp.

Costa-Cabral, M., Burges, S.J. (1994): Digital Elevation Model Networks (DEMON): a model of flow over hillslopes for computation of contributing and dispersal areas. *Water Resources Research*, 30(6): 1681-1692.

Fit 2nd Degree Polynomial:

Evans, I.S. (1979): An integrated system of terrain analysis and slope mapping. Final Report on grant DA-ERO-591-73-G0040. University of Durham, England.

Bauer, J., Rohdenburg, H., Bork, H.-R. (1985): Ein Digitales Reliefmodell als Voraussetzung fuer ein deterministisches Modell der Wasser- und Stoff-Fluesse. *Landschaftsgenese und Landschaftsoekologie*, H. 10, Parametereaufbereitung fuer deterministische Gebiets-Wassermodelle, Grundlagenarbeiten zur Analyse von Agrar-Oekosystemen, eds.: Bork, H.-R., Rohdenburg, H., p. 1-15.

Heerdegen, R.G., Beran, M.A. (1982): Quantifying source areas through land surface curvature. *Journal of Hydrology*, 57.

Zevenbergen, L.W., Thorne, C.R. (1987): Quantitative analysis of land surface topography. *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms*, 12: 47-56.

Fit 3.Degree Polynomial:

Haralick, R.M. (1983): Ridge and valley detection on digital images. *Computer Vision, Graphics and Image Processing*, 22(1): 28-38.

For a discussion on the calculation of slope by ArcGIS check these links:

<https://community.esri.com/?c=93&f=1734&t=239914>

[https://webhelp.esri.com/arcgisdesktop/9.2/index.cfm?topicname=how\\_slope\\_works](https://webhelp.esri.com/arcgisdesktop/9.2/index.cfm?topicname=how_slope_works)

### See Also

[rsaga.local.morphometry\(\)](#), [rsaga.parallel.processing\(\)](#), [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
# Simple slope, aspect, and general curvature in degrees:
rsaga.slope.asp.curv("lican.sgrd", "slope", "aspect", "curvature",
                    method = "maxslope", unit.slope = "degrees", unit.aspect = "degrees")
# same for ASCII grids (default extension .asc):
rsaga.esri.wrapper(rsaga.slope.asp.curv,
                   in.dem="lican", out.slope="slope",
                   out.aspect = "aspect", out.cgene = "curvature",
                   method="maxslope", unit.slope = "degrees", unit.aspect = "degrees")

## End(Not run)
```

---

`rsaga.solar.radiation` *Potential incoming solar radiation*

---

### Description

This function calculates the potential incoming solar radiation in an area either using a lumped atmospheric transmittance model or estimating it based on water and dust content. Use [rsaga.pisr\(\)](#) instead with SAGA GIS 2.0.6+.

### Usage

```
rsaga.solar.radiation(
  in.dem,
  out.grid,
  out.duration,
  latitude,
  unit = c("kWh/m2", "J/m2"),
  solconst = 1367,
  method = c("lumped", "components"),
  transmittance = 70,
```

```

pressure = 1013,
water.content = 1.68,
dust = 100,
time.range = c(0, 24),
time.step = 1,
days = list(day = 21, month = 3),
day.step = 5,
env = rsaga.env(),
...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	name of input digital elevation model (DEM) grid in SAGA grid format (default extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>out.grid</code>	output grid file for potential incoming solar radiation sums
<code>out.duration</code>	Optional output grid file for duration of insolation
<code>latitude</code>	Geographical latitude in degree North (negative values indicate southern hemisphere)
<code>unit</code>	unit of the <code>out.grid</code> output: "kWh/m2" (default) or "J/m2"
<code>solconst</code>	solar constant, defaults to 1367 W/m2
<code>method</code>	specifies how the atmospheric components should be accounted for: either based on a lumped atmospheric transmittance as specified by argument <code>transmittance</code> ("lumped", or numeric code 0; default); or by calculating the components corresponding to water and dust ("components", code 1)
<code>transmittance</code>	transmittance of the atmosphere in percent; usually between 60 (humid areas) and 80 percent (deserts)
<code>pressure</code>	atmospheric pressure in mbar
<code>water.content</code>	water content of a vertical slice of the atmosphere in cm: between 1.5 and 1.7cm, average 1.68cm (default)
<code>dust</code>	dust factor in ppm; defaults to 100ppm
<code>time.range</code>	numeric vector of length 2: time span (hours of the day) for numerical integration
<code>time.step</code>	time step in hours for numerical integration
<code>days</code>	either a list with components <code>day</code> and <code>month</code> specifying a single day of the year for radiation modeling; OR a numeric vector of length 2 specifying the start and end date (see Note below)
<code>day.step</code>	if <code>days</code> indicates a range of days, this specifies the time step (number of days) for calculating the incoming solar radiation
<code>env</code>	RSAGA geoprocessing environment obtained with <code>rsaga.env()</code> ; this argument is required for version control (see Note)
<code>...</code>	optional arguments to be passed to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code>



**Value**

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (default) a character vector with the module's console output.

**Note**

This module ceased to exist under SAGA GIS 2.0.6+, which has a similar (but more flexible) module Potential Solar Radiation that is interfaced by `rsaga.pisr()`.

SAGA\_CMD uses zero-based days and months, but this R function uses the standard one-based days and months (e.g. day 1 is the first day of the month, month 1 is January) and translates to the SAGA system.

In SAGA 2.0.2, solar radiation sums calculated for a range of days, say `days=c(a,b)` actually calculate radiation only for days `a, . . . , b-1` (in steps of `day.step` - I used `day.step=1` in this example). The setting `a=b` however gives the same result as `b=a+1`, and indeed `b=a+2` gives twice the radiation sums and potential sunshine duration that `a=b` and `b=a+1` both give.

The solar radiation module of SAGA 2.0.1 had a bug that made it impossible to pass a range of days of the year or a range of hours of the day (`time.range`) to SAGA. These options work in SAGA 2.0.1.

This function uses module Incoming Solar Radiation from SAGA GIS library `ta_lighting`.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)

**References**

Wilson, J.P., Gallant, J.C. (eds.), 2000: Terrain analysis - principles and applications. New York, John Wiley & Sons.

**See Also**

[rsaga.hillshade\(\)](#), [rsaga.insolation\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# potential solar radiation on Nov 7 in Southern Ontario...
rsaga.solar.radiation("dem", "solrad", "soldur", latitude=43,
  days=list(day=7, month=11), time.step=0.5)

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.target	<i>Define target grid for interpolation</i>
--------------	---

---

### Description

Define the resolution and extent of a target grid for interpolation by SAGA modules based on (1) user-provided x/y coordinates, (2) an existing SAGA grid file, or (3) the header data of an ASCII grid. Intended to be used with RSAGA's interpolation functions.

### Usage

```
rsaga.target(
  target = c("user.defined", "target.grid", "header"),
  user.cellsize = 100,
  user.x.extent,
  user.y.extent,
  target.grid,
  header,
  env = rsaga.env()
)
```

### Arguments

target	character: method used for defining the target grid
user.cellsize	Only for target="user.defined": raster resolution (in the grid's map units)
user.x.extent	See user.y.extent
user.y.extent	Only for target="user.defined": numeric vectors of length 2: minimum and maximum coordinates of grid cell center points
target.grid	Only for target="target.grid": character string giving the name of a SAGA grid file that specifies the extent and resolution of the target grid; this target grid file may be overwritten, depending on the specifics of the SAGA GIS module used.
header	Only for target="header": list: ASCII grid header (as returned e.g. by <a href="#">read.ascii.grid.header()</a> ) or defined manually; must at least have components ncols, nrows, cellsize, and either x/yllcorner or x/yllcenter.
env	A SAGA geoprocessing environment, see <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> .

### Value

a list containing information such as the bounding box of a target grid

### Note

This function is to be used with RSAGA functions [rsaga.inverse.distance\(\)](#), [rsaga.nearest.neighbour\(\)](#) and [rsaga.modified.quadratic.shephard\(\)](#). Note that these are currently only compatible with SAGA GIS 2.0.5 and higher.

**See Also**

[read.ascii.grid.header\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# IDW interpolation of attribute "z" from the point shapefile
# 'points.shp' to a grid with the same extent and resolution
# as the (pre-existing) geology grid:
rsaga.inverse.distance("points", "dem", field = "z", maxdist = 1000,
  target = rsaga.target(target="target.grid",
    target.grid = "geology"))

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.topdown.processing

*Top-Down Processing*

---

**Description**

Calculate the size of the local catchment area (contributing area), accumulated material, and flow path length, using top-down processing algorithms from the highest to the lowest cell.

Top-Down Processing is new with SAGA GIS 2.1.3. See [rsaga.parallel.processing\(\)](#) with older versions.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.topdown.processing(
  in.dem,
  in.sinkroute,
  in.weight,
  in.mean,
  in.material,
  in.target,
  in.lin.val,
  in.lin.dir,
  out.carea,
  out.mean,
  out.tot.mat,
  out.acc.left,
  out.acc.right,
  out.flowpath,
  step,
  method = "mfd",
  linear.threshold = Inf,
  convergence = 1.1,
```

```

    env = rsaga.env(),
    ...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>in.dem</code>	input: digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default file extension: <code>.sgrd</code> )
<code>in.sinkroute</code>	optional input: SAGA grid with sink routes
<code>in.weight</code>	optional input: SAGA grid with weights
<code>in.mean</code>	optional input: SAGA grid for mean over catchment calculation
<code>in.material</code>	optional input: SAGA grid with material
<code>in.target</code>	optional input: SAGA grid of accumulation target
<code>in.lin.val</code>	optional input: SAGA grid providing values to be compared with linear flow threshold instead of catchment area
<code>in.lin.dir</code>	optional input: SAGA grid to be used for linear flow routing, if the value is a valid direction (0-7 = N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, NW)
<code>out.carea</code>	output: catchment area grid
<code>out.mean</code>	optional output: mean over catchment grid
<code>out.tot.mat</code>	optional output: total accumulated material grid
<code>out.acc.left</code>	optional output: accumulated material from left side grid
<code>out.acc.right</code>	optional output: accumulated material from right side grid
<code>out.flowpath</code>	optional output: flow path length grid
<code>step</code>	integer $\geq 1$ : step parameter
<code>method</code>	character or numeric: choice of processing algorithm (default <code>"mfd"</code> , or 4): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 Deterministic 8 (<code>"d8"</code> or 0)</li> <li>• 1 Rho 8 (<code>"rho8"</code>, or 1)</li> <li>• 2 Braunschweiger Reliefmodell (<code>"braunschweig"</code> or 2)</li> <li>• 3 Deterministic Infinity (<code>"dinf"</code> or 3)</li> <li>• 4 Multiple Flow Direction (<code>"mfd"</code> or 4)</li> <li>• 5 Multiple Triangular Flow Direction (<code>"mtfd"</code>, or 5)</li> <li>• 6 Multiple Maximum Gradient Based Flow Direction (<code>"mdg"</code>, or 6)</li> </ul>
<code>linear.threshold</code>	numeric (number of grid cells): threshold above which linear flow (i.e. the Deterministic 8 algorithm) will be used; linear flow is disabled for <code>linear.threshold=Inf</code> (the default)
<code>convergence</code>	numeric $\geq 0$ : a parameter for tuning convergent/ divergent flow; default value of 1.1 gives realistic results and should not be changed
<code>env</code>	list, setting up a SAGA geoprocessing environment as created by <code>rsaga.env()</code>
<code>...</code>	further arguments to <code>rsaga.geoprocessor()</code>

**Details**

Refer to the references for details on the available algorithms.

**Value**

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the `rsaga.geoprocessor()`. For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (the default) a character vector with the module's console output.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning and Donovan Bangs (R interface), Olaf Conrad (SAGA module), Thomas Grabs (MTFD algorithm)

**References**

Deterministic 8:

O'Callaghan, J.F., Mark, D.M. (1984): The extraction of drainage networks from digital elevation data. *Computer Vision, Graphics and Image Processing*, 28: 323-344.

Rho 8:

Fairfield, J., Leymarie, P. (1991): Drainage networks from grid digital elevation models. *Water Resources Research*, 27: 709-717.

Braunschweiger Reliefmodell:

Bauer, J., Rohdenburg, H., Bork, H.-R. (1985): Ein Digitales Reliefmodell als Voraussetzung fuer ein deterministisches Modell der Wasser- und Stoff-Fluesse. *Landschaftsgenese und Landschaftsoekologie*, H. 10, Parametereaufbereitung fuer deterministische Gebiets-Wassermodelle, Grundlagenarbeiten zu Analyse von Agrar-Oekosystemen, eds.: Bork, H.-R., Rohdenburg, H., p. 1-15.

Deterministic Infinity:

Tarboton, D.G. (1997): A new method for the determination of flow directions and upslope areas in grid digital elevation models. *Water Resources Research*, 33(2): 309-319.

Multiple Flow Direction:

Freeman, G.T. (1991): Calculating catchment area with divergent flow based on a regular grid. *Computers and Geosciences*, 17: 413-22.

Quinn, P.F., Beven, K.J., Chevallier, P., Planchon, O. (1991): The prediction of hillslope flow paths for distributed hydrological modelling using digital terrain models. *Hydrological Processes*, 5: 59-79.

Multiple Triangular Flow Direction:

Seibert, J., McGlynn, B. (2007): A new triangular multiple flow direction algorithm for computing upslope areas from gridded digital elevation models. *Water Resources Research*, 43, W04501.

Multiple Flow Direction Based on Maximum Downslope Gradient:

Qin, C.Z., Zhu, A.-X., Pei, T., Li, B.L., Scholten, T., Zhou, C.H. (2011): An approach to computing topographic wetness index based on maximum downslope gradient. *Precision Agriculture*, 12(1): 32-43.

**See Also**

[rsaga.parallel.processing\(\)](#), [rsaga.wetness.index\(\)](#), [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# Calculation of contributing area with default settings:
rsaga.topdown.processing(in.dem = "dem", out.carea = "carea")
# Calculation of contributing area by maximum downslope gradient:
rsaga.topdown.processing(in.dem = "dem", out.carea = "carea",
                        method = "mdg")

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsaga.union.polygons *Spatial union of two polygon layers*

---

**Description**

The function `rsaga.union.polygons` uses SAGA function "Union" to calculate the geometric union of two polygon layers. This corresponds to the intersection and the symmetrical difference of the two layers.

**Usage**

```
rsaga.union.polygons(
  layer_a = NULL,
  layer_b = NULL,
  result = NULL,
  split = FALSE,
  load = NULL,
  env = rsaga.env()
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>layer_a</code>	A character string representing the path to a polygon shapefile.
<code>layer_b</code>	A character string representing the path to a polygon shapefile with which to union <code>layer_a</code> .
<code>result</code>	character, path indicating where to store the output shapefile.
<code>split</code>	If TRUE, multipart polygons become separated polygons (default: FALSE).
<code>load</code>	Deprecated, will be removed in a future release. Ignored if FALSE, and causes an error if TRUE (default: NULL)
<code>env</code>	RSAGA geoprocessing environment created by <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> , required because module(s) depend(s) on SAGA version.

## Details

Function `gUnion()` in `rgeos` package can also be used for joining intersecting polygon geometries. However, `rsaga.union.polygons()` will be usually much faster, especially when joining thousands of polygons.

## Value

The function saves the output shapefile to the path indicated in function argument `result`.

## Author(s)

Jannes Muenchow and Alexander Brenning (R interface), Olaf Conrad and Angus Johnson (SAGA modules)

---

rsaga.wetness.index     *SAGA Modules SAGA Wetness Index*

---

## Description

Calculate the SAGA Wetness Index (SWI), a modified topographic wetness index (TWI)

## Usage

```
rsaga.wetness.index(  
  in.dem,  
  out.wetness.index,  
  out.carea,  
  out.cslope,  
  out.mod.carea,  
  suction,  
  area.type,  
  slope.type,  
  slope.min,  
  slope.offset,  
  slope.weight,  
  t.param,  
  env = rsaga.env(),  
  ...  
)
```

## Arguments

`in.dem`            input: digital elevation model (DEM) as SAGA grid file (default file extension: `.sgrd`)

`out.wetness.index`    output file (optional): wetness index grid file name. Existing files of the same name will be overwritten!

<code>out.carea</code>	output file (optional): catchment area grid file name
<code>out.cslope</code>	output file (optional): catchment slope grid file name
<code>out.mod.carea</code>	output file (optional): file name of modified catchment area grid
<code>suction</code>	SAGA GIS 2.1.0+: positive numeric value (optional): the lower this value is the stronger is the suction effect; defaults to a value of 10 (more detailed information is currently not available in the SAGA GIS documentation)
<code>area.type</code>	character or numeric (optional): type of area: "absolute" (or numeric code 0): absolute catchment area; "square root" (code 1; the default e.g. in SAGA 2.3.1): square root of catchment area; "specific" (code 2; the default e.g. in SAGA 8.4.1): specific catchment area
<code>slope.type</code>	character or numeric (optional): type of slope: "local" (or numeric code 0): local slope; "catchment" (or code 1; the default): catchment slope.
<code>slope.min</code>	numeric (optional): minimum slope; default: 0
<code>slope.offset</code>	numeric (optional): offset slope; default: 0.1
<code>slope.weight</code>	numeric (optional): weighting factor for slope in index calculation; default: 1
<code>t.param</code>	SAGA GIS up to version 2.0.8: positive numeric value (optional): undocumented
<code>env</code>	A SAGA geoprocessing environment, see <a href="#">rsaga.env()</a> .
<code>...</code>	optional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">rsaga.geoprocessor()</a>

## Details

The SAGA Wetness Index is similar to the Topographic Wetness Index (TWI), but it is based on a modified catchment area calculation (`out.mod.carea`), which does not treat the flow as a thin film as done in the calculation of catchment areas in conventional algorithms. As a result, the SWI tends to assign a more realistic, higher potential soil wetness than the TWI to grid cells situated in valley floors with a small vertical distance to a channel.

This module and its arguments changed substantially from SAGA GIS 2.0.8 to version 2.1.0. It appears to me that the new algorithm is similar (but not identical) to the old one when using `area.type="absolute"` and `slope.type="local"` but I haven't tried out all possible options. This help file will be updated as soon as additional documentation becomes available.

## Value

The type of object returned depends on the `intern` argument passed to the [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#). For `intern=FALSE` it is a numerical error code (0: success), or otherwise (the default) a character vector with the module's console output.

## Author(s)

Alexander Brenning (R interface), Juergen Boehner and Olaf Conrad (SAGA module)



## References

Boehner, J., Koethe, R. Conrad, O., Gross, J., Ringeler, A., Selige, T. (2002): Soil Regionalisation by Means of Terrain Analysis and Process Parameterisation. In: Micheli, E., Nachtergaele, F., Montanarella, L. (ed.): Soil Classification 2001. European Soil Bureau, Research Report No. 7, EUR 20398 EN, Luxembourg. pp.213-222.

Boehner, J. and Selige, T. (2006): Spatial prediction of soil attributes using terrain analysis and climate regionalisation. In: Boehner, J., McCloy, K.R., Strobl, J. [Ed.: SAGA - Analysis and Modelling Applications, Goettinger Geographische Abhandlungen, Goettingen: 13-28.

## See Also

[rsaga.parallel.processing\(\)](#), [rsaga.geoprocessor\(\)](#), [rsaga.env\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# using SAGA grids:
rsaga.wetness.index("dem.sgrd", "swi.sgrd")

## End(Not run)
```

---

set.file.extension      *Determine or modify file name extensions*

---

## Description

Function `get.file.extension` determines the file extension, `set.file.extension` changes it, and `default.file.extension` changes it only if it is not already specified.

## Usage

```
set.file.extension(filename, extension, fsep = .Platform$file.sep)

get.file.extension(filename, fsep = .Platform$file.sep)

default.file.extension(filename, extension, force = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

filename	character vector: file name(s), possibly including paths and extensions; a file name ending with a "." is interpreted as having extension "", while a file name that doesn't contain a "." is interpreted as having no extension.
extension	character string: file extension, without the dot
fsep	character: separator between paths
force	logical argument to <code>default.file.extension</code> : force the file extension to be extension (same result as <code>set.file.extension</code> ), or only set it to extension if it has not been specified?

**Value**

character vector of same length as filename

**Examples**

```
fnm = c("C:/TEMP.DIR/temp", "C:/TEMP.DIR/tmp.txt", "tempfile.")
get.file.extension(fnm)
set.file.extension(fnm, extension=".TMP")
default.file.extension(fnm, extension=".TMP")
```

---

study\_area

*Study area mask for the landslides dataset*

---

**Description**

Study area polygon for the landslides dataset

**Usage**

study\_area

**Format**

An sf polygon object representing the outlines of the natural part of the RBSF study area.

**Source**

Muenchow, J., Brenning, A., Richter, R. (2012): Geomorphic process rates of landslides along a humidity gradient in the tropical Andes, *Geomorphology* 139-140, 271-284. DOI: 10.1016/j.geomorph.2011.10.029.

Stoyan, R. (2000): Aktivitaet, Ursachen und Klassifikation der Rutschungen in San Francisco/Suedecuador. Unpublished diploma thesis, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany.

**See Also**

[landslides](#)

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 wind.shelter

*Wind Shelter Index*


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### Description

wind.shelter is a function to be used with `focal.function()` to calculate a topographic wind shelter index from a digital elevation model, which is a proxy for snow accumulation on the lee side of topographic obstacles. `wind.shelter.prep` performs some preparatory calculations to speed up repeated calls to `wind.shelter`.

### Usage

```
wind.shelter(x, prob = NULL, control)
```

```
wind.shelter.prep(radius, direction, tolerance, cellsize = 90)
```

### Arguments

x	square matrix of elevation data
prob	numeric: quantile of slope values to be used in computing the wind shelter index; if NULL, use max (equivalent to prob=1)
control	required argument: the result of a call to <code>wind.shelter.prep</code>
radius	radius (>1) of circle segment to be used (number of grid cells, not necessarily an integer)
direction	wind direction: direction from which the wind originates; North = 0 = 2*pi, clockwise angles.
tolerance	directional tolerance
cellsize	grid cellsize

### Details

wind.shelter implements a wind shelter index used by Plattner et al. (2004) for modeling snow accumulation patterns on a glacier in the Austrian Alps. It is a modified version of the algorithm of Winstral et al. (2002). The wind shelter index of Plattner et al. (2004) is defined as:

$$\text{Shelter index}(S) = \arctan( \max( (z(x_0) - z(x)) / |x_0 - x| : x \text{ in } S ) ),$$

where  $S = S(x_0, a, da, d)$  is the set of grid nodes within a distance  $\leq d$  from  $x_0$ , only considering grid nodes in directions between  $a - da$  and  $a + da$  from  $x_0$ .

The present implementation generalizes this index by replacing `max` by the quantile function; the `max` function is used if `prob=NULL`, and the same result is obtained for `prob=1` using the quantile function.

**Value**

The function `wind.shelter` returns the wind shelter index as described above if a numeric matrix `x` is provided. If it is missing, it returns the character string "windshelter".

`wind.shelter.prep` returns a list with components `mask` and `dist`. Both are square matrices with  $2 \times (\text{ceiling}(\text{radius}) + 1)$  columns and rows:

<code>mask</code>	indicates which grid cell in the moving window is within the specified circle segment (value FALSE) or not (TRUE)
<code>dist</code>	the precomputed distances of a grid cell to the center of the moving window, in map units

**Note**

The wind shelter index only makes sense if elevation is measured in the same units as the horizontal map units used for the `cellsize` argument (i.e. usually meters).

`wind.shelter` and `wind.shelter.prep` do not restrict the calculation to a circular area; this is done by `focal.function()` when used in combination with that function (assuming `search.mode="circle"`).

Note that the present definition of the wind shelter index returns negative values for surfaces that are completely exposed toward the specified direction. This may make sense if interpreted as a "wind exposure index", or it might be appropriate to set negative wind shelter values to 0.

**Author(s)**

Alexander Brenning

**References**

Plattner, C., Braun, L.N., Brenning, A. (2004): Spatial variability of snow accumulation on Vernagtferner, Austrian Alps, in winter 2003/2004. *Zeitschrift fuer Gletscherkunde und Glazialgeologie*, 39: 43-57.

Winstral, A., Elder, K., Davis, R.E. (2002): Spatial snow modeling of wind-redistributed snow using terrain-based parameters. *Journal of Hydrometeorology*, 3: 524-538.

**See Also**

`focal.function()`, `quantile()`

**Examples**

```
# Settings used by Plattner et al. (2004):
ctrl = wind.shelter.prep(6,-pi/4,pi/12,10)
## Not run: focal.function("dem.asc",fun=wind.shelter,control=ctrl,
  radius=6,search.mode="circle")
## End(Not run)
```

# Index

- \* **datasets**
  - dem, [5](#)
  - landslides, [14](#)
  - study\_area, [98](#)
- \* **file**
  - read.ascii.grid, [27](#)
  - rsaga.esri.to.sgrd, [39](#)
  - rsaga.import.gdal, [60](#)
  - rsaga.sgrd.to.esri, [81](#)
  - set.file.extension, [97](#)
- \* **interface**
  - read.ascii.grid, [27](#)
  - rsaga.add.grid.values.to.points, [32](#)
  - rsaga.close.gaps, [33](#)
  - rsaga.contour, [34](#)
  - rsaga.copy.sgrd, [35](#)
  - rsaga.env, [36](#)
  - rsaga.esri.to.sgrd, [39](#)
  - rsaga.esri.wrapper, [40](#)
  - rsaga.fill.sinks, [42](#)
  - rsaga.filter.gauss, [44](#)
  - rsaga.filter.simple, [45](#)
  - rsaga.geoprocessor, [46](#)
  - rsaga.get.modules, [49](#)
  - rsaga.get.usage, [52](#)
  - rsaga.get.version, [53](#)
  - rsaga.grid.calculus, [54](#)
  - rsaga.grid.to.points, [56](#)
  - rsaga.hillshade, [57](#)
  - rsaga.html.help, [59](#)
  - rsaga.import.gdal, [60](#)
  - rsaga.insolation, [61](#)
  - rsaga.inverse.distance, [64](#)
  - rsaga.lib.prefix, [67](#)
  - rsaga.local.morphometry, [68](#)
  - rsaga.parallel.processing, [70](#)
  - rsaga.pisr, [73](#)
  - rsaga.pisr2, [76](#)
  - rsaga.sgrd.to.esri, [81](#)
  - rsaga.sink.removal, [82](#)
  - rsaga.sink.route, [83](#)
  - rsaga.slope.asp.curv, [84](#)
  - rsaga.solar.radiation, [87](#)
  - rsaga.target, [90](#)
  - rsaga.topdown.processing, [91](#)
  - rsaga.wetness.index, [95](#)
- \* **operations**
  - rsaga.intersect.polygons, [63](#)
  - rsaga.union.polygons, [94](#)
- \* **polygons**
  - rsaga.intersect.polygons, [63](#)
  - rsaga.union.polygons, [94](#)
- \* **spatial**
  - focal.function, [7](#)
  - grid.predict, [10](#)
  - grid.to.xyz, [13](#)
  - multi.focal.function, [17](#)
  - pick.from.points, [21](#)
  - read.ascii.grid, [27](#)
  - relative.position, [30](#)
  - resid.median, [31](#)
  - rsaga.add.grid.values.to.points, [32](#)
  - rsaga.close.gaps, [33](#)
  - rsaga.contour, [34](#)
  - rsaga.copy.sgrd, [35](#)
  - rsaga.env, [36](#)
  - rsaga.esri.to.sgrd, [39](#)
  - rsaga.esri.wrapper, [40](#)
  - rsaga.fill.sinks, [42](#)
  - rsaga.filter.gauss, [44](#)
  - rsaga.filter.simple, [45](#)
  - rsaga.geoprocessor, [46](#)
  - rsaga.get.modules, [49](#)
  - rsaga.get.usage, [52](#)
  - rsaga.get.version, [53](#)
  - rsaga.grid.calculus, [54](#)

- rsaga.grid.to.points, 56
- rsaga.hillshade, 57
- rsaga.import.gdal, 60
- rsaga.insolation, 61
- rsaga.inverse.distance, 64
- rsaga.lib.prefix, 67
- rsaga.local.morphometry, 68
- rsaga.parallel.processing, 70
- rsaga.pisr, 73
- rsaga.pisr2, 76
- rsaga.sgrd.to.esri, 81
- rsaga.sink.removal, 82
- rsaga.sink.route, 83
- rsaga.slope.asp.curv, 84
- rsaga.solar.radiation, 87
- rsaga.target, 90
- rsaga.topdown.processing, 91
- rsaga.wetness.index, 95
- wind.shelter, 99
- \* utilities**
  - centervalue, 4
  - create.variable.name, 5
  - match.arg.ext, 15
  - rsaga.html.help, 59
  - set.file.extension, 97
- \* vector**
  - rsaga.intersect.polygons, 63
  - rsaga.union.polygons, 94
- abbreviate(), 9
- base::Sys.info(), 51
- base::system(), 47
- browseURL(), 59
- centervalue, 4
- centervalue(), 30, 31
- create.variable.name, 5
- create.variable.name(), 10, 24
- default.file.extension
  - (set.file.extension), 97
- dem, 5, 14
- file.copy(), 36
- focal.function, 7
- focal.function(), 4, 12, 20, 21, 30, 31, 55, 99, 100
- gapply (focal.function), 7
- get.file.extension
  - (set.file.extension), 97
- grid.predict, 10
- grid.predict(), 17, 18, 20, 21
- grid.to.xyz, 13
- grid.to.xyz(), 26
- gstat::idw(), 67
- gstat::krige(), 24, 26
- gstat::vgm(), 24, 26
- internal.pick.from.ascii.grid
  - (pick.from.points), 21
- landslides, 6, 14, 98
- local.function (focal.function), 7
- local.function(), 55
- match.arg(), 15, 16
- match.arg.ext, 15
- median(), 31
- multi.focal.function, 17
- multi.focal.function(), 10–12, 55
- multi.local.function
  - (multi.focal.function), 17
- multi.local.function(), 10–12
- na.exclude(), 19
- na.pass(), 19
- options(), 37, 47
- pick.from.ascii.grid
  - (pick.from.points), 21
- pick.from.ascii.grid(), 13, 33, 37, 80
- pick.from.ascii.grids
  - (pick.from.points), 21
- pick.from.points, 21
- pick.from.points(), 33
- pick.from.saga.grid (pick.from.points), 21
- pick.from.saga.grid(), 33
- pick.from.shapefile (pick.from.points), 21
- plyr::ddply(), 24
- pmatch(), 16
- predict(), 11, 12
- quantile(), 31, 100
- rank(), 30

- read.ascii.grid, 27
- read.ascii.grid(), 13, 26
- read.ascii.grid.header(), 90, 91
- read.Rd.grid(read.ascii.grid), 27
- read.sgrd(read.ascii.grid), 27
- relative.position, 30
- relative.position(), 10
- relative.rank(relative.position), 30
- relative.rank(), 10
- resid.median, 31
- resid.median(), 4, 10
- resid.minmedmax(resid.median), 31
- resid.minmedmax(), 9, 10
- resid.quantile(resid.median), 31
- resid.quantile(), 9, 10
- resid.quartiles(resid.median), 31
- resid.quartiles(), 10
- RSAGA (RSAGA-package), 3
- RSAGA-package, 3
- rsaga.add.grid.values.to.points, 32
- rsaga.add.grid.values.to.points(), 57
- rsaga.aspect(rsaga.local.morphometry), 68
- rsaga.close.gaps, 33
- rsaga.close.gaps(), 40
- rsaga.close.one.cell.gaps
  - (rsaga.close.gaps), 33
- rsaga.contour, 34
- rsaga.copy.sgrd, 35
- rsaga.curvature
  - (rsaga.local.morphometry), 68
- rsaga.env, 36, 39, 81
- rsaga.env(), 3, 25, 34, 35, 37, 40, 41, 44, 45, 47, 48, 50, 52–56, 59, 60, 63, 64, 66, 67, 69–72, 75, 78, 82, 85, 87, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 97
- rsaga.esri.to.sgrd, 39
- rsaga.esri.to.sgrd(), 41
- rsaga.esri.wrapper, 40
- rsaga.esri.wrapper(), 40, 48, 82
- rsaga.fill.sinks, 42
- rsaga.fill.sinks(), 83, 84
- rsaga.filter.gauss, 44
- rsaga.filter.gauss(), 45
- rsaga.filter.simple, 45
- rsaga.filter.simple(), 44
- rsaga.geoprocessor, 46
- rsaga.geoprocessor(), 25, 32–35, 39, 41–45, 50, 52–56, 58, 59, 61, 63, 66, 69–72, 75, 78, 79, 81–89, 92–94, 96, 97
- rsaga.get.lib.modules
  - (rsaga.get.modules), 49
- rsaga.get.lib.modules(), 47
- rsaga.get.libraries
  - (rsaga.get.modules), 49
- rsaga.get.libraries(), 48
- rsaga.get.modules, 49
- rsaga.get.modules(), 37, 48, 52, 80
- rsaga.get.modules.path, 51
- rsaga.get.usage, 52
- rsaga.get.usage(), 48, 50, 59
- rsaga.get.version, 53
- rsaga.get.version(), 36, 38, 80
- rsaga.grid.calculus, 54
- rsaga.grid.to.points, 56
- rsaga.grid.to.points(), 33
- rsaga.hillshade, 57
- rsaga.hillshade(), 40, 48, 52, 59, 63, 76, 79, 89
- rsaga.html.help, 59
- rsaga.html.help(), 50, 52
- rsaga.import.gdal, 60
- rsaga.insolation, 61
- rsaga.insolation(), 58, 76, 79, 89
- rsaga.intersect.polygons, 63
- rsaga.intersect.polygons(), 64
- rsaga.inverse.distance, 64
- rsaga.inverse.distance(), 35, 90
- rsaga.lib.prefix, 67
- rsaga.lib.prefix(), 37
- rsaga.linear.combination
  - (rsaga.grid.calculus), 54
- rsaga.local.morphometry, 68
- rsaga.local.morphometry(), 52, 84, 87
- rsaga.modified.quadratic.shephard
  - (rsaga.inverse.distance), 64
- rsaga.modified.quadratic.shephard(), 90
- rsaga.module.exists
  - (rsaga.get.modules), 49
- rsaga.module.exists(), 47
- rsaga.nearest.neighbour
  - (rsaga.inverse.distance), 64
- rsaga.nearest.neighbour(), 90
- rsaga.parallel.processing, 70

rsaga.parallel.processing(), 70, 87, 91, 94, 97  
rsaga.pisr, 73  
rsaga.pisr(), 37, 47, 63, 76, 79, 80, 87, 89  
rsaga.pisr2, 76  
rsaga.plan.curvature  
    (rsaga.local.morphometry), 68  
rsaga.profile.curvature  
    (rsaga.local.morphometry), 68  
rsaga.search.modules  
    (rsaga.get.modules), 49  
rsaga.search.modules(), 48  
rsaga.set.env, 80  
rsaga.sgrd.to.esri, 81  
rsaga.sgrd.to.esri(), 41  
rsaga.sink.removal, 82  
rsaga.sink.removal(), 43, 84  
rsaga.sink.route, 83  
rsaga.sink.route(), 43, 83  
rsaga.slope(rsaga.local.morphometry), 68  
rsaga.slope.asp.curv, 84  
rsaga.slope.asp.curv(), 68, 70  
rsaga.solar.radiation, 87  
rsaga.solar.radiation(), 58, 63, 76, 79  
rsaga.target, 90  
rsaga.target(), 66, 67  
rsaga.topdown.processing, 91  
rsaga.topdown.processing(), 70, 72  
rsaga.triangulation  
    (rsaga.inverse.distance), 64  
rsaga.union.polygons, 94  
rsaga.union.polygons(), 95  
rsaga.wetness.index, 95  
rsaga.wetness.index(), 72, 94  
  
scan(), 8, 19, 25, 28  
set.file.extension, 97  
sf::read\_sf(), 29, 30  
sf::write\_sf(), 30  
shapefiles::write.shapefile(), 66  
study\_area, 14, 98  
system(), 25, 46, 48  
  
wind.shelter, 99  
wind.shelter(), 10  
write.ascii.grid(read.ascii.grid), 27  
write.ascii.grid(), 26  
write.ascii.grid.header(), 8, 19  
  
write.Rd.grid(read.ascii.grid), 27  
write.sgrd(read.ascii.grid), 27