

Package ‘insol’

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Type Package

Title Solar Radiation

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Depends methods

Imports rgdal, raster

Suggests datasets,graphics,rgl,stats

Description Functions to compute insolation on complex terrain.

License GPL-2

URL <https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/index.html>

LazyLoad yes

NeedsCompilation yes

R topics documented:

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| | |
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| insol-package | <i>Solar Radiation</i> |
|---------------|------------------------|

Description

Calculates insolation and cast shadows on tilted and irregular surfaces, computes atmospheric transmittance and related parameters such as: Earth radius vector, declination, sunset and sunrise, daylength, equation of time, vector in the direction of the sun, vector normal to surface, and some atmospheric physics.

Details

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Package: | insol |
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| Version: | 1.2 |
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| License: | GPL-2 |
| LazyLoad: | yes |

Author(s)

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Additional information: <https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/>

References

Bird, R. E. and Hulstrom, R. L. (1981a) Review, evaluation and improvements of direct irradiance models, *Trans. ASME J. Solar Energy Eng.* 103, 182-192.

Bird, R. E. and Hulstrom, R. L. (1981b) *A simplified clear sky model for direct and diffuse insolation on horizontal surfaces*, Technical Report SERI/TR-642-761, Solar Research Institute, Golden, Colorado.

Iqbal, M. (1983) *An Introduction to Solar Radiation*, Academic Press, Toronto.

Bourges, B.: 1985, Improvement in solar declination computation, *Solar Energy* 35(4), 367-369.

Corripio, J. G.: 2003, Vectorial algebra algorithms for calculating terrain parameters from DEMs and the position of the sun for solar radiation modelling in mountainous terrain, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 17(1), 1-23.

Danby, J. M. Eqn. 6.16.4 in *Fundamentals of Celestial Mechanics*, 2nd ed. Richmond, VA: Willmann-Bell, p. 207, 1988.

Meeus, J. 1999. *Astronomical Algorithms*. Willmann-Bell, Richmond, Virginia, USA.

Reda, I. and Andreas, A. 2003. *Solar Position Algorithm for Solar Radiation Applications*. 55 pp.; NREL Report No. TP-560-34302, Revised January 2008. <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy08osti/34302.pdf>

<https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/calcdetails.html>

aspect

Aspect or orientation of the slope

Description

Calculates the aspect of every grid cell in a digital elevation model (DEM) from the output of cellgradient, which is a set of unit vectors normal to every grid cell in the DEM.

Usage

```
aspect(cgrad, degrees = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|---|
| cgrad | A 3D array of dimensions [nrow(dem), ncol(dem), 3], where the third dimensions are the x, y, z component of the unit vectors normal to the surface of the DEM grid cells. |
| degrees | Logical. If FALSE, returns radians, if TRUE, returns degrees. |

Details

Uses atan2() to compute the orientation within the range $[0, 2\pi]$

Value

Aspect or orientation of the slope.

See Also

[slope](#), [cgrad](#)

Examples

```
# Create a west-east facing ramp
slpwe = rep(1,10) %o% c(1:5,4:1)
# calculate the aspect at every node or grid cell (it should be 270 or 90 degrees):
cgr = cgrad(slpwe,1)
aspect(cgr,degrees=TRUE)

# Calculate the aspect of a rough mountain area in the pyrenees
```

```

zipfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.asc.zip",zipfile)
header = read.table(unz(zipfile,'dempyrenees.asc'),nrows=6)
dem = read.table(unz(zipfile,'dempyrenees.asc'),skip=6)
dem = as.matrix(dem)
unlink(zipfile)
cellsize = header[5,2]
aspectdem = aspect(cgrad(dem,cellsize),degrees=TRUE)
image(t(aspectdem[nrow(aspectdem):1,]),col=grey(1:100/100))

## Not run: ## raster package display nicer than image and handles projections:
require(rgdal)
require(raster)
demfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.tif",demfile)
dem = raster(demfile)
aspectdem = aspect(cgrad(dem),degrees=TRUE)
aspectdem = raster(aspectdem,crs=projection(dem))
extent(aspectdem) = extent(dem)
plot(aspectdem,col=grey(1:100/100))
unlink(demfile)

## End(Not run)

```

cgrad

Normal vector to every grid cell in a DEM

Description

Computes a unit vector normal to every grid cell in a digital elevation model.

Usage

```
cgrad(dem, dlx, dly = dlx, cArea = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|---|
| dem | Digital Elevation Model, either a matrix or a Raster Layer. |
| dlx | Resolution along X axis (longitude). |
| dly | Resolution along Y axis (latitude). |
| cArea | Logical, if TRUE returns the surface area of every grid cell instead of the gradient. |

Details

The normal vector to the grid cell is the cross product of vectors along the sides of the polygon that form the grid cell. By definition the length of this vector is equal to the area of the polygon.

Value

Returns a 3D matrix with the 2 first dimensions as input dem and the 3rd dimension of value 3 corresponding to the x, y, z coordinates of a unit vector perpendicular to every grid cell. If cArea is TRUE, the result is a 2D matrix with the surface area of every grid cell.

warning

dlx and dly are assumed to be constant over the extension of the DEM, therefore the projection should not be latlong. In this case the resolution is a constant angle, and the equivalent distance on the surface changes with latitude, giving incorrect results.

Note

The returned information for every cell is contained by the node at the upperleft corner and the last column and row are undefined. The values given for the last column and row are a replication of the previous column and row.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Corripio, J. G.: 2003, Vectorial algebra algorithms for calculating terrain parameters from DEMs and the position of the sun for solar radiation modelling in mountainous terrain, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 17(1), 1-23.

See Also

[aspect](#), [slope](#),

Examples

```
## visualize x, y z components of vector normal to a DEM representing a regular pyramid
m = matrix(0,nrow=100,ncol=100)
for (i in 1:100){ for (j in 1:100){
m[i,j]=50-max(abs(i-50),abs(j-50)) }}
grdm = cgrad(m,1)
xcomponent = grdm[,1]
ycomponent = grdm[,2]
zcomponent = grdm[,3]
image(t(xcomponent[nrow(xcomponent):1,]),col=grey(1:10/10))
image(t(ycomponent[nrow(ycomponent):1,]),col=grey(1:10/10))
image(t(zcomponent[nrow(zcomponent):1,]),col=grey(1:10/10))

## Surface area of every grid cell in a mountain region
## Steep slopes correspond to larger surface area per grid cell
zipfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.asc.zip",zipfile)
header = read.table(unz(zipfile,'dempyrenees.asc'),nrows=6)
dem = read.table(unz(zipfile,'dempyrenees.asc'),skip=6)
dem = as.matrix(dem)
unlink(zipfile)
cellsize = header[5,2]
grdarea = cgrad(dem,cellsize,cArea=TRUE)
image(t(grdarea[nrow(grdarea):1,]),col=grey(100:1/100))

## plot the relationship between surface slope and surface area per grid cell:
slpg = slope(cgrad(dem,cellsize),degrees=TRUE)
plot(slpg,grdarea)
```

```

## This would be a linear relationship in 2D,
## but in a DEM the slope of the grid cell depends on 4 points in 3D
plot(tan(radians(slp)),grdarea)

## Not run:
## Use raster for better display and keep the dem projection
require(rgdal)
require(raster)
demfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.tif",demfile)
dem = raster(demfile)
plot(dem)
grd = cgrad(dem)
grdarea = cgrad(dem,cArea=TRUE)
rgrdarea = raster(grdarea,crs=projection(dem))
extent(rgrdarea) = extent(dem)
plot(rgrdarea,col = grey(100:1/100))
contour(dem,col='sienna1',lwd=.5,nlevels=30,add=TRUE)
unlink(demfile)

## End(Not run)

```

daydoy

Dates to day of the year

Description

Returns day of the year for given dates.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'numeric'
daydoy(x,month,day)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'POSIXct'
daydoy(x)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|---|
| x | Year, four digits format, or an object of class POSIXct with no extra arguments |
| month | Month number. |
| day | Day of the month. |

Value

Day of the year [1:366].

See Also[ISOdate](#)**Examples**

```
daydoy(2019, 2, 27:29)
daydoy(ISOdate(2019, 2, 27:29))
```

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| daylength | <i>Length of daylight</i> |
|-----------|---------------------------|

Description

Compute duration of day light for a given latitude and Julian Day.

Usage

```
daylength(lat, long, jd, tmz)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------|--|
| lat | Latitude in degrees and decimal fraction. |
| long | Longitude in degrees and decimal fraction. |
| jd | Julian Day. |
| tmz | Timezone, west of Greenwich is negative. |

Details

It considers sunrise and sunset as the time when the center of the sun pass above or below the horizon, it does not take into account limb, summer time, atmospheric refraction or twilight.

Value

| | |
|---------|---|
| sunrise | Time of sunrise. |
| sunset | Time of sunset. |
| daylen | Duration of daylight in hours and decimal fraction. |

It returns NA for sunrise and sunset during the polar night.

Note

You may like to double check at: <https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/azel.html>

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Corripio, J. G.: 2003, Vectorial algebra algorithms for calculating terrain parameters from DEMs and the position of the sun for solar radiation modelling in mountainous terrain, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 17(1), 1-23.

See Also

[declination](#), [eqtime](#)

Examples

```
daylength(47,11,JDymd(2019,1,1,12),1)
daylength(c(47,75),11,2456282,1)

# Daylength for the whole 2019 year
jd2019=JD(seq(ISOdate(2019,1,1),ISOdate(2019,12,31),by='day'))
plot(daylength(47,11,jd2019,1)[,3],xlab='Day of the year',ylab='day length [h]',ylim=c(0,24))
```

declination

Declination

Description

Computes the declination of the Sun for a given Julian Day.

Usage

```
declination(jd)
```

Arguments

jd Julian Day.

Value

Declination in degrees and decimal fraction.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

<https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/calcdetails.html>

Meeus, J. 1999. *Astronomical Algorithms*. Willmann-Bell, Richmond, Virginia, USA.

Reda, I. and Andreas, A. 2003. *Solar Position Algorithm for Solar Radiation Applications*. 55 pp.; NREL Report No. TP-560-34302, Revised January 2008. <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy08osti/34302.pdf>

Examples

```
declination(JDymd(2019,1,1))

jdays = JD(ISOdate(2019,1:12,21))
declination(jdays)

## Plot daily changes in declination from 2018 to 2020
jdays=JD(seq(ISOdate(2018,1,1),ISOdate(2020,12,31),by='day'))
plot(declination(jdays),xlab='days from 2018-01-01',ylab='declination')
```

| | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| degrees | <i>Radians to degrees</i> |
|---------|---------------------------|

Description

Accessory function to transform radians into degrees.

Usage

```
degrees(radian)
```

Arguments

radian Angle in radians and decimal fraction.

Value

Angle in degrees.

See Also

[radians](#)

Examples

```
degrees(seq(0,2*pi,pi/2))
```

doshade

Cast shadows

Description

Calculates cast shadows over matrix or Raster Layer DEM for a given illumination direction.

Usage

```
doshade(dem, sv, dl = 0, sombra = dem)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------|--|
| dem | Digital elevation model, a matrix or RasterLayer representing terrain elevation on a regular grid. |
| sv | Unit vector in the direction of the sun. |
| dl | Grid spacing. Not needed if dem is a Raster Layer. |
| sombra | Returned matrix or Raster Layer, no input needed for this argument. |

Details

doshade calls a fortran routine that scans the DEM in lines parallel the sun direction. It compares the projection of grid cells on a plane perpendicular to the sun to determine whether they are in the sun or in the shadow of a previous cell. See Figure 6 of reference for more details.

Value

Return an object of the same class the the input dem (either a matrix o a Raster Layer), with values 0 for shaded or 1 for not shaded.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Corripio, J. G.: 2003, Vectorial algebra algorithms for calculating terrain parameters from DEMs and the position of the sun for solar radiation modelling in mountainous terrain, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 17(1), 1-23.

Examples

```
# define the sun vector: northwest at 15 degrees elevation
sv = normalvector(75,315)

## create a pyramid 100 units by side and 50 nunits tall
m = matrix(0,nrow=100,ncol=100)
for (i in 1:100){ for (j in 1:100){
m[i,j] = 50-max(abs(i-50),abs(j-50)) }}

## place it on a large flat expanse
```

```

mm = matrix(0,nrow=500,ncol=500)
mm[201:300,201:300] = m

## calculate and plot the cast shadows from the sun
sh = doshade(mm,sv,1)
image(t(sh[nrow(sh):1,]),col=grey(1:100/100))
contour(mm,add=TRUE,col='sienna1',nlevels=25)
## (mm is symmetrical, no need to rotate as for shadows)

## plot cast shadows on mountain terrain, sun at NW, 25 degrees elevation
zipfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.asc.zip",zipfile)
header = read.table(unz(zipfile,'dempyrenees.asc'),nrows=6)
dem = read.table(unz(zipfile,'dempyrenees.asc'),skip=6)
dem = as.matrix(dem)
unlink(zipfile)
cellsize=header[5,2]
sv = normalvector(65,315)
sh = doshade(dem,sv,cellsize)
image(t(sh[nrow(sh):1,]),col=grey(1:100/100))

## add intensity of illumination in this case sun at NW 45 degrees elevation
sv = normalvector(45,315)
grd = cgrad(dem,cellsize)
hsh = grd[,1]*sv[1]+grd[,2]*sv[2]+grd[,3]*sv[3]
## remove negative incidence angles (self shading)
hsh = (hsh+abs(hsh))/2
sh = doshade(dem,sv,cellsize)
hshsh = hsh*sh
image(t(hshsh[nrow(sh):1,]),col=grey(1:100/100))

## Not run:
## plot cast shadows on mountain terrain using raster
sv = normalvector(65,315)
require(rgdal)
require(raster)
demfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.tif",demfile)
dem = raster(demfile)
sh = doshade(dem,sv)
plot(sh,col=grey(0:1),legend=FALSE)
contour(dem,add=TRUE,col='sienna1',lwd=.5,nlevels=50)

## add intensity of illumination in this case sun at NW 45 degrees elevation
sv = normalvector(45,315)
grd = cgrad(dem)
hsh = grd[,1]*sv[1]+grd[,2]*sv[2]+grd[,3]*sv[3]
## remove negative incidence angles (self shading)
hsh = (hsh+abs(hsh))/2
## convert back to raster as dem and add shadows
hsh = raster(hsh,crs=projection(dem))
extent(hsh) = extent(dem)
sh = doshade(dem,sv)
plot(hsh*sh,col=grey(1:100/100),legend=FALSE)
unlink(demfile)

```

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

| | |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| doyday | <i>Day of the year to date</i> |
|--------|--------------------------------|

Description

Returns the date for given days of the year.

Usage

```
doyday(year, doy)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------|---|
| year | Year, four digits format. It can have a decimal fraction if day is omitted. |
| doy | Day of the year [1:366]. |

Value

returns an object of class POSIXlt.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

See Also

[as.POSIXlt](#)

Examples

```
doyday(2019, 58:65)
```

```
doyday(2019.5)
```

| | |
|--------|-------------------------|
| eqtime | <i>Equation of time</i> |
|--------|-------------------------|

Description

Computes the equation of time for a given Julian Day.

Usage

```
eqtime(jd)
```

Arguments

jd Julian Day.

Value

Equation of time in minutes.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

<https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/calcdetails.html>

Meeus, J. 1999. *Astronomical Algorithms*. Willmann-Bell, Richmond, Virginia, USA.

Reda, I. and Andreas, A. 2003. *Solar Position Algorithm for Solar Radiation Applications*. 55 pp.; NREL Report No. TP-560-34302, Revised January 2008. <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy08osti/34302.pdf>

Examples

```
# plot the equation of time for 2013 at daily intervals
jdays = seq(ISOdate(2013,1,1),ISOdate(2013,12,31),by='day')
jd = JD(jdays)
plot(eqtime(jd))
abline(h=0,col=8)

# Analema
plot(eqtime(jd),declination(jd))

# Analema from Greenwich Observatory
latGwch = 51.4791
x = 180+eqtime(jd)*15/60
y = 90-latGwch+declination(jd)
plot(x,y,ylim=c(0,90),xlab=expression(paste('Azimuth (' ,degree,')')),
ylab=expression(paste('Elevation (' ,degree,')')))

## Add the solstices and equinoxes (nearest day, see Meeus ch. 26 for more precision)
decl = declination(jd)
wintersolstice = which(decl==min(decl))
summersolstice = which(decl==max(decl))
```

```
## spring equinox: when declination becomes zero in the first part of the year
springeqx = uniroot(declination,jd[c(1,180)])$root
springeqx = daydoy(JD(springeqx,inv=TRUE))
autumeqx = uniroot(declination,jd[c(180,360)])$root
autumeqx = daydoy(JD(autumeqx,inv=TRUE))
nodeseqx = c(springeqx,summersolstice,autumeqx,wintersolstice)
points(x[nodeseqx],y[nodeseqx],pch=19,col=3)
abline(h=c(90-latGwch,90-latGwch+max(decl),90-latGwch+min(decl)),col=8)
```

GCdistance

Great circle distance

Description

Great circle or geodesic distance.

Usage

```
GCdistance(lat1,lon1,lat2,lon2)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------|-------------------------------------|
| lat1 | Latitude of points of origin. |
| lon1 | Longitude of points of origin. |
| lat2 | Latitude of points of destination. |
| lon2 | Longitude of points of destination. |

Value

Distance between origin and destination points in metres.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

<https://edwilliams.org/avform.htm>,
<http://mathworld.wolfram.com/GreatCircle.html>.

Examples

```
GCdistance(0,0,0,180)*2

# distance between the center of US states
data(state)
ddd = matrix(nrow=50,ncol=50,dimnames=list(state.name,state.name))
for (i in 1:50){
  for (j in 1:50){
    distij = GCdistance(state.center$y[i],state.center$x[i],
state.center$y[j],state.center$x[j])
```

```
# round to miles
ddd[i,j]=round(distij/1609.344,2)
}
}
# format and print results for the 10 firsts states
as.dist(ddd[1:10,1:10])
```

hillshading

Intensity of illumination over a surface

Description

Computes the intensity of illumination over a surface, such as a DEM, according to the position of the sun.

Usage

```
hillshading(cgrad, sv)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|--|
| cgrad | 3D array (nrow, ncol, 3) of unit vectors normal to surface grid cells. The output of cgrad(). |
| sv | unit vector in the direction of the sun. |

Details

The intensity of the sun beams falling on a surface are proportional to the cosine of the angle between the sun vector and the vector normal to the surface, which in this case is the dot product between cgrad and sv.

Value

A matrix of illumination intensity values. Negative values are the equivalent of self shading and are set to zero.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Corripio, J. G.: 2003, Vectorial algebra algorithms for calculating terrain parameters from DEMs and the position of the sun for solar radiation modelling in mountainous terrain, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 17(1), 1-23.

See Also

[cgrad](#), [insolation](#), [sunvector](#)

Examples

```

## Not run:
## From the "Obligatory Mathematical surface" in persp3d {rgl}
## this shows the cast shadows clearly, but there is some interference with rgl internal
## lit parameters
require(rgl)
x = seq(-10, 10, length= 300)
y = x
f = function(x,y) { r <- sqrt(x^2+y^2); 10 * sin(r)/r }
z = outer(x, y, f)
z[is.na(z)] = 1
zgr = cgrad(z,2/30)
sv = normalvector(55,315)
hsh = zgr[,1]*sv[1]+zgr[,2]*sv[2]+zgr[,3]*sv[3]
hsh = (hsh+abs(hsh))/2
sh = doshade(z,sv,2/30)
hshsh = hsh*sh
hshsh = t(hshsh[nrow(hshsh):1,])
open3d()
rgl.light(viewpoint.rel = F, ambient = "#FFFFFF", diffuse = "#FFFFFF", specular = "#000000")
persp3d(x, y, z, col=grey(hshsh))

## End(Not run)

## Hillshading on mountain terrain, sun at NW, 35 degrees elevation
zipfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.asc.zip",zipfile)
header = read.table(unz(zipfile,'dempyrenees.asc'),nrows=6)
dem = read.table(unz(zipfile,'dempyrenees.asc'),skip=6)
dem = as.matrix(dem)
unlink(zipfile)
cellsize = header[5,2]
sv = normalvector(55,315)
grd = cgrad(dem,cellsize)
hsh = grd[,1]*sv[1]+grd[,2]*sv[2]+grd[,3]*sv[3]
## remove negative incidence angles (self shading)
hsh = (hsh+abs(hsh))/2
sh = doshade(dem,sv,cellsize)
hshsh = hsh*sh
image(t(hshsh[nrow(sh):1,]),col=grey(1:100/100))

## Not run:
## Hillshading on mountain terrain, sun at NW, 45 degrees elevation. Using raster
sv = normalvector(45,315)
require(rgdal)
require(raster)
demfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.tif",demfile)
dem = raster(demfile)
grd = cgrad(dem)
hsh = grd[,1]*sv[1]+grd[,2]*sv[2]+grd[,3]*sv[3]
## remove negative incidence angles (self shading)
hsh = (hsh+abs(hsh))/2
hsh = raster(hsh,crs=projection(dem))
extent(hsh) = extent(dem)
plot(hsh,col=grey(1:100/100),legend=FALSE)

```



```
unlink(demfile)
```

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

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| hourangle | <i>Hour angle</i> |
|-----------|-------------------|

Description

Hour angle, internal function for solar position.

Usage

```
hourangle(jd, longitude, timezone)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------|---|
| jd | Julian Day. |
| longitude | Longitude. |
| timezone | Timezone in hours, west of Greenwich is negative. |

Value

Hour angle

| | |
|------------|--|
| insolation | <i>Direct and diffuse solar radiation.</i> |
|------------|--|

Description

Computes direct and diffuse solar irradiance perpendicular to the beam, for a given zenith angle, Julian Day, altitude and atmospheric conditions.

Usage

```
insolation(zenith, jd, height, visibility, RH, tempK, O3, alphag)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------------|---|
| zenith | Zenith angle in degrees. |
| jd | Julian Day. |
| height | Altitude above sea level. |
| visibility | Visibility [km]. |
| RH | Relative humidity [%]. |
| tempK | Air temperature [K]. |
| O3 | Ozone thickness [m]. |
| alphag | Albedo of the surrounding terrain [0 to 1]. |

Details

See <https://disc.gsfc.nasa.gov/datasets?page=1&source=AURA%20OMI> for ozone data.

Value

Returns a two column matrix of irradiance values. The first column is direct radiation, the second is diffuse radiation.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Bird, R. E. and Hulstrom, R. L. (1981a) Review, evaluation and improvements of direct irradiance models, *Trans. ASME J. Solar Energy Eng.* 103, 182-192.

Bird, R. E. and Hulstrom, R. L. (1981b) *A simplified clear sky model for direct and diffuse insolation on horizontal surfaces*, Technical Report SERI/TR-642-761, Solar Research Institute, Golden, Colorado.

Iqbal, M. (1983) *An Introduction to Solar Radiation*, Academic Press, Toronto.

See Also

[doshade](#), [hillshading](#), [sunvector](#)

Examples

```

insolation(30,2458656,3200,28,60,278.15,0.003,0.2)
insolation(30,JDymd(2019,6,21),3200,28,60,278.15,0.003,0.2)

# Compare measured and modelled insolation

# load data from automatic weather station in the Andes
data(meteoandes)

# Get zenith angle for every time step
meteodate = as.POSIXct(strptime(paste(meteoandes$year,meteoandes$doy,
meteoandes$hh,meteoandes$mm),format="%Y %j %H %M"))
metjd = JD(meteodate)

sunv = sunvector(metjd,-33.695,-70.0033,-4)
zenith = sunpos(sunv)[,2]

# Compute direct and diffuse beam irradiance
Idirdif = insolation(zenith,metjd,4640,90,
meteoandes$RH,meteoandes$Tair+273.15,0.003,0.55)

# modify for angle of incidence on horizontal surface (pyranometer)
cos_inc_sfc = sunv%*%as.vector(normalvector(0,0)) ## or sum(sunv*normalvector(0,0))

# set to zero values with no incident light
cos_inc_sfc[cos_inc_sfc<0] = 0

# Add direct and diffuse simulated radiation on horizontal surface

```

```

Isim = Idirdif[,1] * cos_inc_sfc + Idirdif[,2]

# plot the measured insolation
plot(meteodate,meteoandes$pyra1,'l',col=2)

# add a shaded polygon corresponding to 10% accuracy in the measurements
polygon(c(meteodate, rev(meteodate)), c(meteoandes$pyra1*(1+0.1),
rev(meteoandes$pyra1*(1-0.1))),col = "#ff000033", border = NA)

# add the simulated insolation
lines(meteodate,Isim,col=4)

# We measured that diffuse reflected solar radiation from the surrounding mountains
# covered in snow could be up to 10% of total incoming radiation.
# There is one hour of shadows early in the morning (not simulated)
# Add 10% diffuse reflected radiation
lines(meteodate,1.1*Isim,col=3)

## Calculate insolation on the island of La Palma, Spain on the 21.03.2013
## reduced resolution DEM from SRTM, https://www2.jpl.nasa.gov/srtm/
zipfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/demlapalma.asc.zip",zipfile)
header = read.table(unz(zipfile,'demlapalma.asc'),nrows=6)
dem = read.table(unz(zipfile,'demlapalma.asc'),skip=6)
dem = as.matrix(dem)
unlink(zipfile)
cellsize = header[5,2]
cgr = cgrad(dem,cellsize)
height = 750
visibility = 30
RH = 80
tempK = 288
tmz = 0
year = 2013
month = 3
day = 21
timeh = 12
jd = JDymd(year,month,day,hour=timeh)
Iglobal = array(0,dim=dim(dem))
deltat = 0.5
lat = 28.135
lon = -17.247
dayl = daylength(lat,lon,jd,0)
for (srs in seq(dayl[1],dayl[2],deltat)){
jd = JDymd(year,month,day,hour=srs)
sv = sunvector(jd,lat,lon,tmz)
hsh = hillshading(cgr,sv)
sh = doshade(dem,sv,cellsize)
zenith = sunpos(sv)[2]
Idirdif = insolation(zenith,jd,height,visibility,RH,tempK,0.002,0.15)
## direct radiation modified by terrain + diffuse irradiation (skyviewfactor ignored)
## values in J/m^2
Iglobal = Iglobal + (Idirdif[,1] * hsh + Idirdif[,2] )*3600*deltat
}

## display results

```

```

image(t(Iglobal[nrow(Iglobal):1,]),col=grey(1:100/100))
contour(t(dem[nrow(dem):1,]),lwd=.5,col='sienna1',add=TRUE,levels=seq(0,2500,500))
contour(t(dem[nrow(dem):1,]),lwd=.25,col='sienna1',add=TRUE,levels=seq(0,2500,50),drawlabels=FALSE)

## Not run:
## The same using raster
require(rgdal)
require(raster)
demfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/demlapalma.tif",demfile)
dem = raster(demfile)
plot(dem)
cgr = cgrad(dem)
demmm = raster::as.matrix(dem)
dl = res(dem)[1]
## Isolation at 30 min interval over the length of the day
## RH and temp would change over the day, here we use a constant value for simplicity
height = 750
visibility = 30
RH = 80
tempK = 288
tmz = 0
year = 2013
month = 3
day = 21
timeh = 12
jd = JDymd(year,month,day,hour=timeh)
Iglobal = array(0,dim=dim(demmm))
deltat = 0.5
lat = 28.135
lon = -17.247
dayl = daylength(lat,lon,jd,0)
for (srs in seq(dayl[1],dayl[2],deltat)){
  jd = JDymd(year,month,day,hour=srs)
  sv = sunvector(jd,lat,lon,tmz)
  hsh = hillshading(cgr,sv)
  sh = doshade(demmm,sv,dl)
  zenith = sunpos(sv)[2]
  Idirdif = insolation(zenith,jd,height,visibility,RH,tempK,0.002,0.15)
  ## direct radiation modified by terrain + diffuse irradiation (skyviewfactor ignored)
  ## values in J/m^2
  Iglobal = Iglobal + (Idirdif[,1] * hsh + Idirdif[,2] )*3600*deltat
}
## rasterize to plot nicely
Iglobal = raster(Iglobal,crs=projection(dem))
extent(Iglobal) = extent(dem)
plot(Iglobal*1e-6,col=grey(1:100/100),
      legend.args = list(text=expression(paste('Insolation MJ ',m^-2)), side=4,line=2.5))
contour(dem,lwd = 0.5,col='sienna1',add=TRUE,levels=seq(0,2500,500))
contour(dem,lwd = 0.25,col='sienna1',add=TRUE,levels=seq(0,2500,50),drawlabels=FALSE)
unlink(demfile)

## End(Not run)

```

JD *Julian Day from POSIXct*

Description

Computes Julian Day from dates as POSIXct object.

Usage

```
JD(x, inverse=FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|---|
| x | POSIXct object. |
| inverse | Logical. If <code>false</code> (default) returns the Julian Days corresponding to given dates. If <code>TRUE</code> returns the date corresponding to input Julian days |

Details

Class "POSIXct" represents the (signed) number of seconds since the beginning of 1970 (in the UTC timezone) as a numeric vector, and Julian Day is the number of days since January 1, 4713 BCE at noon UTC, so the Julian Day is calculated as `numeric(POSIXct)+2440587.5` days.

Value

Julian Day

Note

You may like to double check the results here:

<https://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/tc.cgi>

To get correct values it is recommended to increase the number of digits to display: `options(digits=12)`

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

See Also

[JDymd](#)

Examples

```
JD(Sys.time())
JD(seq(ISOdate(2019,1,21),ISOdate(2019,12,21),by='month'))
```

JDymd *Julian Day from yyyy, mm, dd*

Description

Computes Julian Day from a given date.

Usage

```
JDymd(year, month, day, hour=12, minute=0, sec=0)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------|----------------------------|
| year | numeric year |
| month | 1-12: number of the month. |
| day | 1-31: day of the month. |
| hour | 0-23: hour of the day. |
| minute | 0-59: minutes. |
| sec | 0-59: seconds. |

Value

Julian Day, or number of days since January 1, 4713 BCE at noon UTC.

Warning

This simplification is only valid between 1901 and 2099. To get correct values it is recommended to increase the number of digits to display: `options(digits=12)`

Note

You may like to double check the results here:

<https://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/tc.cgi>

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Danby, J. M. Eqn. 6.16.4 in *Fundamentals of Celestial Mechanics*, 2nd ed. Richmond, VA: Willmann-Bell, p. 207, 1988.

See Also

[JD](#)

Examples

```
JDymd(2019, 3, 20, 12)
```

```
print(paste('Number of days since the beginning of the century (1/1/2001):',
  JD(Sys.time())-JDymd(2001,1,1,0)))
```

meteoandes *Mountain meteorological data*

Description

Meteorological data from an automatic weather station in the Central Andes of Chile.

Usage

```
data(meteoandes)
```

Format

A data frame with 1152 observations on the following 10 variables.

```
year Year
doy Day of the year
hh hour
mm minute
Tair Air temperature, grades centigrade
pyra1 Incoming solar short-wave radiation Wm^-2
pyra2 Reflected solar short-wave radiation Wm^-2
windspeed Wind speed, ms^-1
winddir Wind direction, degrees
RH Relative humidity %
```

Source

Measured by the author on Loma Larga Glacier, -33.6917, -70.0, 4640 m a.s.l. January 2001.

References

Corripio, J. G. and Purves, R. S.: 2005, Surface energy balance of high altitude glaciers in the Central Andes: the effect of snow penitentes, in C. de Jong, D. Collins and R. Ranzi (eds), *Climate and Hydrology in Mountain Areas*, Wiley, London, chapter 3, pp. 15-27.

Examples

```
data(meteoandes)
str(meteoandes)

# plot the 2 pyranometers measurements
# one facing up: incident insolation, one facing down: reflected insolation

meteodate = strptime(paste(meteoandes$year,meteoandes$doy,meteoandes$hh,meteoandes$mm),
format="%Y %j %H %M",tz="America/Santiago")
plot(meteodate,meteoandes$pyra1,'l',col=2,xlab='Date',
ylab=expression(paste('Solar radiation [ ',Wm^-2,' ]')),
main='Insolation at Loma Larga glacier')
lines(meteodate,meteoandes$pyra2,col=4)
```

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| normalvector | <i>Vector normal to surface</i> |
|--------------|---------------------------------|

Description

Calculates a unit vector normal to a surface defined by slope inclination and slope orientation.

Usage

```
normalvector(slope, aspect)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| slope | slope inclination in degrees. |
| aspect | slope orientation in degrees. |

Value

Vector normal to surface, matrix of [x, y, z] coordinates.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Corripio, J. G.: 2003, Vectorial algebra algorithms for calculating terrain parameters from DEMs and the position of the sun for solar radiation modelling in mountainous terrain, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 17(1), 1-23.

Examples

```
# horizontal surface
normalvector(0,0)

# surface 45 degrees south
normalvector(45,180)

# range of surfaces 45 degrees E,SE,S,SW,W
normalvector(45,seq(90,270,45))

# Angle of incidence of the sun on a tilted surface 15 degrees south on March at Davos
jd = JD(seq(ISOdate(2019,3,20,0),ISOdate(2019,3,20,23),by="hour"))
degrees(acos(sunvector(jd,46.813,9.844,1) %*% as.vector(normalvector(15,180))))
```

p2rho *Air pressure to density*

Description

Calculates air density for a given pressure, temperature and relative humidity.

Usage

```
p2rho(Pz, TempK, RH)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|-----------------------|
| Pz | Air pressure in hPa |
| TempK | Air temperature in K |
| RH | Relative humidity (%) |

Value

Air density (kgm^{-3})

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Brutsaert, W.: 1982, *Evaporation into the atmosphere : theory, history, and applications*, Reidel, Dordrecht. 1984 edition.

See Also

[wvapsat](#)

Examples

```
p2rho(1013, 288, 60)

# plot density vertical profile

z = seq(0, 10000,100)
press = z2p(z)
Tair = 288-0.0065*z
par(mar=c(5.1, 4.5, 4.1, 2.1)) # increase left margin for label
plot(z,p2rho(press,Tair,50),ty='l',xlab='Altitude',
ylab=expression(paste('Air density [ kg ', m^-3, ' ]')))
```

radians

Degrees to radians

Description

Accessory function to transform degrees into radians.

Usage

```
radians(degree)
```

Arguments

degree Angle in degrees and decimal fraction.

Value

Angle in radians.

See Also

[degrees](#)

Examples

```
radians(seq(0, 360, 90))
```

rh2sh

Relative humidity to specific humidity

Description

Computes specific humidity from given relative humidity, temperature and pressure.

Usage

```
rh2sh(RH, tempk, Pz, ice)
```

Arguments

RH Relative humidity (%).
tempk Air temperature in K
Pz Air pressure in hPa
ice Whether over water or ice surface (0,1).

Value

Specific humidity (kg/kg).

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Brutsaert, W.: 1982, *Evaporation into the atmosphere : theory, history, and applications*, Reidel, Dordrecht. 1984 edition.

See Also

[wvapsat](#)

Examples

```
plot(250:300-273.15,rh2sh(50, 250:300, 1013, 0),xlab='Temperature [C]',  
ylab='specific humidity',  
main='Specific humidity for RH=0.5 and varying temperature')
```

slope

Slope of grid cells in a DEM

Description

Calculates the slope of every grid cell in a digital elevation model (DEM) from the output of cgrad, which is a set of unit vectors normal to every grid cell.

Usage

```
slope(cgrad, degrees = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|---|
| cgrad | A 3D array of dimensions nrow(dem), ncol(dem),3, where the third dimensions are the x, y z component of the unit vectors normal to the surface of the DEM grid cells. |
| degrees | Logical. If FALSE, returns radians, if TRUE, returns degrees. |

Value

A matrix of slope values for all grid cells.

See Also

[aspect](#), [cgrad](#)

Examples

```

# Calculate the slope of a rough mountain area in the pyrines
zipfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.asc.zip", zipfile)
header = read.table(unz(zipfile, 'dempyrenees.asc'), nrow=6)
dem = read.table(unz(zipfile, 'dempyrenees.asc'), skip=6)
dem = as.matrix(dem)
unlink(zipfile)
cellsize = header[5,2]
slopedem = slope(cgrad(dem, cellsize), degrees=TRUE)
image(t(slopedem[nrow(slopedem):1,]), col=grey(100:1/100))

## similar but using raster
## Not run:
require(rgdal)
require(raster)
demfile = tempfile()
download.file("https://meteoexploration.com/R/insol/data/dempyrenees.tif", demfile)
dem = raster(demfile)
slopedem = slope(cgrad(dem), degrees=TRUE)
slopedem = raster(slopedem, crs=projection(dem))
extent(slopedem) = extent(dem)
plot(slopedem, col = grey(100:1/100))
unlink(demfile)

## End(Not run)

```

sunpos

Azimuth and zenith of the Sun

Description

Returns a matrix of azimuth and zenith angles of the sun given the unit vectors from the observer to the direction of the sun.

Usage

```
sunpos(sunv)
```

Arguments

sunv coordinates x, y, z of the unit vector in the direction of the sun.

Value

A matrix of azimuth and zenith angles.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Corripio, J. G.: 2003, Vectorial algebra algorithms for calculating terrain parameters from DEMs and the position of the sun for solar radiation modelling in mountainous terrain, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 17(1), 1-23.

See Also

[sunvector](#),

Examples

```
## Julian Day hourly intervals at spring equinox
jd = JD(seq(ISOdate(2019,3,20,0),ISOdate(2019,3,20,23),by="hour"))

## sun position
sp = sunpos(sunvector(jd,46.813,9.844,1))

## daylight zenith<=90
sp = sp[which(sp[,2]<=90),]

## Plot the apparent solar path at Davos on the spring equinox
ramp = colorRamp(c("red", "orange", "yellow"))
crmp = c(rgb(ramp(seq(1/6,1,1/6)), max = 255),rgb(ramp(seq(1,1/6,-1/6)), max = 255))
plot(sp[,1],90-sp[,2],xlab='Azimuth',
ylab='Elevation',main='Apparent solar path at Davos on the spring equinox',
pch=20,col=crmp,cex=(300-sp[,2])/90)

## Not run:
require(plotrix)
polar.plot(90-sp[,2],sp[,1],start=90,clockwise=TRUE,rp.type='s',
point.symbols=20,point.col=2,cex=2,radial.lim=c(0,90),
main='Apparent solar path at Davos on the spring equinox')

## End(Not run)
```

sunr

Earth radius vector

Description

Calculates the Earth radius vector.

Usage

```
sunr(jd)
```

Arguments

jd Julian Day

Value

Earth Radius Vector in Astronomical Units (AU). This is used to modify the solar constant as a function of the earth-sun distance.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

<https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/calcdetails.html>

Meeus, J. 1999. *Astronomical Algorithms*. Willmann-Bell, Richmond, Virginia, USA.

Reda, I. and Andreas, A. 2003. *Solar Position Algorithm for Solar Radiation Applications*. 55 pp.; NREL Report No. TP-560-34302, Revised January 2008. <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy08osti/34302.pdf>

Examples

```
# plot the variation of the earth radius vector over the next year
days_nexty = seq(Sys.time(), Sys.time()+86400*365, by='day')
plot(days_nexty, sunr(JD(days_nexty)), xlab='Date', ylab='Earth Radius Vector [AU]')
abline(h=1, col=8)
```

sunvector

Solar vector

Description

Calculates a unit vector in the direction of the sun from the observer position.

Usage

```
sunvector(jd, latitude, longitude, timezone)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------|--|
| jd | Julian Day and decimal fraction. |
| latitude | Latitude of observer in degrees and decimal fraction. |
| longitude | Longitude of observer in degrees and decimal fraction. |
| timezone | Time zone, west is negative. |

Details

To calculate the sunvector to the nearest hour, give the Julian Day with a precision better than 1/24; to approximate it to the nearest minute use decimal fractions smaller than 1/(24*60), and so on.

Value

3 column matrix with the x, y, z coordinates of the sun vector.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Corripio, J. G.: 2003, Vectorial algebra algorithms for calculating terrain parameters from DEMs and the position of the sun for solar radiation modelling in mountainous terrain, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 17(1), 1-23.

See Also

[sunpos](#)

Examples

```
# Current solar vector at Greenwich observatory
sunvector(JD(Sys.time()),51.4778,-0.0017,0)

juneday = JD(seq(ISOdate(2019,6,21,0),ISOdate(2019,6,21,23,30),by='30 min'))
## Not run:
# Path of the sun over Greenwich in summer
require(scatterplot3d)
scatterplot3d(sunvector(juneday,51.4778,-0.0017,0),
ylim=c(-1,1),zlim=c(0,1),pch=8,color='orange')

## End(Not run)
# print values
options(digits=12) # make sure decimals are printed
sunvector(juneday,51.4778,-0.0017,0)
```

wvapsat

Saturation pressure of water vapor

Description

Computes the saturation pressure of water vapour in air over water or ice.

Usage

```
wvapsat(tempk, ice)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| tempk | Air temperature [K]. |
| ice | Over water or ice [0,1]. |

Value

Partial pressure of water vapour [hPa].

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

Lowe, P. R.: 1977, An approximating polynomial for the computation of saturation vapor pressure, *Journal of Applied Meteorology* 16, 100-103.

Examples

```
## Plot the differences saturation pressure over water and over ice
plot(wvapsat(250:300), xlab='Temperature', ylab='saturation vapour pressure [hPa]')

Tair = 223:273
plot(Tair,wvapsat(Tair),ty='l',lwd=2,col=4,xlab='Temperature',
ylab='saturation vapour pressure [hPa]')
lines(Tair,wvapsat(Tair,ice=1),col=8)
legend('topleft',c('saturation pressure over water','saturation pressure over ice'),
col=c(4,8),lwd=2)
```

z2p

Altitude to pressure

Description

Computes air pressure for a given altitude according to the standard atmosphere.

Usage

```
z2p(z, P0 = 101325, T0 = 288.15)
```

Arguments

| | |
|----|---|
| z | altitude above sea level in metres [0:10000]. |
| P0 | Pressure at sea level. |
| T0 | Temperature at sea level. |

Value

Pressure in hPa.

Author(s)

Javier G. Corripio

References

U.S. NOAA: 1976, *U.S. standard atmosphere, 1976*, NOAA-S/T; 76-1562, U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, United States Air Force, Washington. 227 pp.

Examples

```
# Plot pressure from sea level to the top of Mt. Everest
plot(z<-0:8848,z2p(z),'l',xlab='Altitude [m]',ylab='Pressure [hPa]')
```


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