# Package 'mbg'

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Title Model-Based Geostatistics

Version 1.1.0

**Description** Modern model-based geostatistics for point-referenced data. This package provides a simple interface to run spatial machine learning models and geostatistical models that estimate a continuous (raster) surface from point-referenced outcomes and, optionally, a set of raster covariates. The package also includes functions to summarize raster outcomes by (polygon) region while preserving uncertainty.

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**Depends** R (>= 4.1.0)

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Suggests INLA, knitr, rmarkdown, ggplot2, scales

Additional\_repositories https://inla.r-inla-download.org/R/stable/

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VignetteBuilder knitr

URL https://henryspatialanalysis.github.io/mbg/

BugReports https://github.com/henryspatialanalysis/mbg/issues

NeedsCompilation no

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.onAttach

Behavior when attaching the mbg package

# Description

Behavior when attaching the mbg package

## Usage

```
.onAttach(libname, pkgname)
```

## Arguments

libname	(character(1)) A character string giving the library directory where the package defining the namespace was found.
pkgname	(character(1)) A character string giving the name of the package.

# Details

Yields a message if the INLA package namespace is not available.

## Value

(invisible) A message may be printed to the console.

aggregate\_draws\_to\_polygons

Aggregate grid cell draws to polygons

## Description

Aggregate grid cell draws to polygons using an aggregation table

## Usage

```
aggregate_draws_to_polygons(
  draws_matrix,
  aggregation_table,
  aggregation_cols = "polygon_id",
  method = "mean",
  z_dimension = NULL,
  z_dimension_name = "z",
  weighting_raster = NULL,
  na.rm = TRUE
)
```

draws_matrix	matrix, array, or data.frame corresponding to grid cell draws that will be aggregated to polygons:
	• Each row represents a non-NA grid cell in the ID raster. If the matrix con- tains multiple years of estimates, the matrix is ordered by year, then by masked_pixel_id. For example, if there are 200 non-NA pixels in the ID raster and five years of draws, then the matrix contains 1000 rows: row 200 corresponds to (year 1, masked_pixel_id 200), row 201 corresponds to (year 2, masked_pixel_id 1), and so on.
	• Each column represents a draw. There should be no non-draw columns (such as ID fields) in the draws_matrix.
aggregation_tak	ble
	data.table::data.table Aggregation table linking pixels to polygon identifiers, cre- ated using build_aggregation_table()
aggregation_col	ls
	(character vector, default 'polygon_id') Polygon identifiers to use for aggrega- tion. Must be field names within aggregation_table.
method	(character, default 'mean') Aggregation method: one of 'mean', 'sum', 'weighted.mean', or 'weighted.sum'. The latter two methods require a weighting_raster.
z_dimension	(vector, default NULL) If passing a data_raster with multiple layers, how should each layer be identified? Should be a vector with length equal to the

number of layers in data\_raster. If left as NULL, the default, and data\_raster has 1 layer, no z dimension will be added. If left as NULL and data\_raster has more than 1 layer, will default to (1, 2, ..., N layers).

#### z\_dimension\_name

(default 'z') The field name for the "z" dimension corresponding to each layer of the data\_raster. This field is only added if z\_dimension is passed or if data\_raster has more than one layer.

weighting_rast	er
	(terra::SpatRaster, default NULL) The relative weighting of each whole pixel to the overall polygon value, for example, if calculating a population-weighted
	mean. Required for methods 'weighted.mean' and 'weighted.sum', ignored for the other methods.
na.rm	(bool, default TRUE) How to handle NA pixels in data_raster and weighting_raster. If set to TRUE but ALL pixels in a polygon are NA, will still return an NA value for the polygon.

#### Details

This is a more efficient and feature-rich alternative to terra's zonal statistics functions. Features include:

- Always fractionally aggregate, weighting by area of the pixel in a polygon
- Optionally weight by both area fraction and a weighting raster (e.g. population)
- Means or sums of raster values across polygons
- Optionally aggregate multiple years of raster data at once

#### Value

data.table::data.table containing polygon identifiers, (optionally) layer identifiers in the z\_dimension\_name column, and data values aggregated by polygon.

## See Also

build\_aggregation\_table

#### Examples

```
## Not run:
polygons <- sf::st_read(system.file('extdata/Benin_communes.gpkg', package = 'mbg'))
id_raster <- build_id_raster(polygons)
n_data_pixels <- sum(!is.na(terra::values(id_raster)))
# Example grid-level draws from e.g. mbg::generate_cell_draws_and_summarize()
draws_matrix <- matrix(rnorm(n_data_pixels * 5), nrow = n_data_pixels)
# Build aggregation table, which can be used across many aggregations
aggregation_table <- build_aggregation_table(
    polygons, id_raster, polygon_id_field = 'commune_code'
)
# Aggregate the grid-level draws to polygon-level draws
aggregated <- aggregate_draws_to_polygons(</pre>
```

#### aggregate\_raster\_to\_polygons

```
draws_matrix = draws_matrix,
  aggregation_table = aggregation_table,
  aggregation_cols = 'commune_code',
  method = 'mean'
)
head(aggregated)
```

## End(Not run)

aggregate\_raster\_to\_polygons

Aggregate a raster to polygons

# Description

Aggregate raster values to polygons using an aggregation table

# Usage

```
aggregate_raster_to_polygons(
   data_raster,
   aggregation_table,
   aggregation_cols = "polygon_id",
   method = "mean",
   aggregated_field = "data",
   z_dimension = NULL,
   z_dimension_name = "z",
   weighting_raster = NULL,
   na.rm = TRUE
)
```

data_raster	terra::SpatRaster containing data to be aggregated to polygons.
aggregation_tab	le
	data.table::data.table Aggregation table linking pixels to polygon identifiers, cre- ated using build_aggregation_table()
aggregation_col	S
	(character vector, default 'polygon_id') Polygon identifiers to use for aggrega- tion. Must be field names within aggregation_table.
method	(character, default 'mean') Aggregation method: one of 'mean', 'sum', 'weighted.mean', or 'weighted.sum'. The latter two methods require a weighting_raster.
aggregated_fiel	d
	(character, default 'data') Name of the aggregated raster values in the output table.

z_dimension	(vector, default NULL) If passing a data_raster with multiple layers, how should each layer be identified? Should be a vector with length equal to the number of layers in data_raster. If left as NULL, the default, and data_raster
	has 1 layer, no z dimension will be added. If left as NULL and data_raster has more than 1 layer, will default to (1, 2,, N layers).
z_dimension_nam	ne
	(default 'z') The field name for the "z" dimension corresponding to each layer of the data_raster. This field is only added if z_dimension is passed or if data_raster has more than one layer.
weighting_raste	er
	(terra::SpatRaster, default NULL) The relative weighting of each whole pixel to the overall polygon value, for example, if calculating a population-weighted mean. Required for methods 'weighted.mean' and 'weighted.sum', ignored for the other methods.
na.rm	(bool, default TRUE) How to handle NA pixels in data_raster and weighting_raster If set to TRUE but ALL pixels in a polygon are NA, will still return an NA value for the polygon.

#### Details

This is a more efficient and feature-rich alternative to terra's zonal statistics functions. Features include:

- · Always fractionally aggregate, weighting by area of the pixel in a polygon
- Optionally weight by both area fraction and a weighting raster (e.g. population)
- Means or sums of raster values across polygons
- Optionally aggregate multiple years of raster data at once

## Value

data.table containing polygon identifiers, (optionally) layer identifiers in the z\_dimension\_name column, and data values aggregated by polygon.

#### See Also

build\_aggregation\_table

## Examples

```
## Not run:
polygons <- sf::st_read(system.file('extdata/Benin_communes.gpkg', package = 'mbg'))
id_raster <- build_id_raster(polygons)
n_data_pixels <- sum(!is.na(terra::values(id_raster)))
# Example ID raster filled with data
# This is an example of pixel-level covariate data or model estimates
data_raster <- mbg::values_to_raster(stats::rnorm(n_data_pixels), id_raster)
# Build aggregation table, which can be used across many aggregations
aggregation_table <- build_aggregation_table(
    polygons, id_raster, polygon_id_field = 'commune_code'
```

```
)
# Aggregate the raster to the polygons
aggregated <- aggregate_raster_to_polygons(
    data_raster = data_raster,
    aggregation_table = aggregation_table,
    aggregation_cols = 'commune_code',
    method = 'mean'
)
head(aggregated)</pre>
```

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

build\_aggregation\_table

Build aggregation table

## Description

Build a table to quickly aggregate from pixels to polygons

#### Usage

```
build_aggregation_table(polygons, id_raster, polygon_id_field, verbose = FALSE)
```

# Arguments

polygons	terra::SpatVector object. Should contain a unique ID field.
id_raster	terra::SpatRaster object. ID raster created by build_id_raster() for the poly- gons object. Should have the same CRS as polygons and completely cover it.
polygon_id_fie	ld
	(character(1)) Unique identifier field in polygons.
verbose	(logical(1), default FALSE) Show progress for building aggregation rows for each polygon?

#### Value

data.table with fields:

- polygon\_id: Unique polygon identifier
- pixel\_id: unique pixel ID from the ID raster
- masked\_pixel\_id: Index counting only non-NA pixels from the ID raster
- area\_fraction: fraction of the pixel area falling within this polygon
- Merged fields from the table of polygons

#### See Also

calculate\_pixel\_fractions\_single\_polygon()

## Examples

```
## Not run:
polygons <- sf::st_read(system.file('extdata/Benin_communes.gpkg', package = 'mbg'))
id_raster <- build_id_raster(polygons)
aggregation_table <- build_aggregation_table(
    polygons, id_raster, polygon_id_field = 'commune_code'
)
```

## End(Not run)

build\_id\_raster Build ID raster

#### Description

Build an ID raster matching the extent of a vector dataset

## Usage

```
build_id_raster(polygons, template_raster = NULL)
```

#### Arguments

polygons terra::SpatVector object. The polygons to be aggregated to

template\_raster

(optional) terra::SpatRaster object. The template raster should contain and have the same CRS as the polygons. If template raster is NULL, the default, uses the default world template raster from make\_world\_template\_raster().

## Details

The ID raster will be used to build the aggregation table. Each pixel has a unique integer value from 1 to the number of pixels in the ID raster.

#### Value

ID raster. A terra::SpatRaster object that minimally encloses the polygons

#### Examples

```
## Not run:
    polygons <- sf::st_read(system.file('extdata/Benin_communes.gpkg', package = 'mbg'))
    build_id_raster(polygons)
```

## End(Not run)

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calculate\_pixel\_fractions\_single\_polygon Calculate fractional pixels in a polygon

# Description

Calculate the fraction of each pixel's area that falls within a single polygon

# Usage

```
calculate_pixel_fractions_single_polygon(polygon, id_raster, polygon_id = NULL)
```

## Arguments

polygon	terra::SpatVector object of length 1. The polygon to calculate fractional areas across.
id_raster	terra::SpatRaster object. ID raster created for the set of all polygons to be con- sidered, created by build_id_raster().
polygon_id	(optional). ID for this polygon. Must have length 1.

# Details

This is a helper function called by build\_aggregation\_table().

#### Value

data.table containing two or three columns:

- pixel\_id: unique pixel ID from the ID raster
- area\_fraction: fraction of the pixel area falling within this polygon
- polygon\_id (optional): If polygon\_id was defined, it is added to the table

## See Also

build\_aggregation\_table

#### Examples

```
## Not run:
    polygons <- sf::st_read(system.file('extdata/Benin_communes.gpkg', package = 'mbg'))
    id_raster <- build_id_raster(polygons)
    pixel_fractions <- calculate_pixel_fractions_single_polygon(
        polygon = polygons[1, ], id_raster
    )
    head(pixel_fractions)
```

## End(Not run)

dissolve\_sf\_by\_attribute

Dissolve sf object by attribute

## Description

Dissolve an SF object by attribute

# Usage

dissolve\_sf\_by\_attribute(x, by = character(0))

# Arguments

х	(sf::sf object) SF object to dissolve
by	(character(N), default character(0)) Attributes to dissolve by

## Details

Inspired by spatialEco::sf\_dissolve

# Value

Dissolved sf::sf object

# Examples

```
## Not run:
    communes_sf <- sf::st_read(system.file("extdata/Benin_communes.gpkg", package = "mbg"))
    departments_sf <- mbg::dissolve_sf_by_attribute(
    x = communes_sf,
    by = c('department', 'department_code')
    )
## End(Not run)
```

fit\_inla\_model Fit INLA model

## Description

Fit an INLA model based on a constructed data stack and formula

fit\_inla\_model

# Usage

```
fit_inla_model(
   formula,
   data_stack,
   spde,
   samplesize_vec = 1,
   precision_vec = 1,
   family = "binomial",
   link = "logit",
   fixed_effects_pc_prior = list(threshold = 3, prob_above = 0.05),
   verbose = TRUE
)
```

# Arguments

formula	(character) INLA formula to fit. Generated in prepare_inla_data_stack(), then interpreted using stats::as.formula() within the call to INLA::inla().
data_stack	Stacked data, covariates, and spatial index. Generated in prepare_inla_data_stack().
spde	SPDE object generated by prepare_inla_data_stack().
<pre>samplesize_vec</pre>	(integer(N), default 1) Sample sizes for each data observation. Only used for binomial data models.
precision_vec	(numeric(N), default 1) Precision for each data observation. Only used for gaussian data models.
family	(character, default 'binomial') GLM family to use. For more information, see <pre>stats::family().</pre>
link	(character, default 'logit') Link function to use, typically related to the GLM family.
fixed_effects_p	oc_prior
	A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for all fixed effects except for the intercept. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the size of each fixed effect, and "prob_above", the prior probability that the beta for each covariate will EXCEED that threshold.
verbose	(logical(1), default TRUE) Log progress for INLA model fitting?

# Details

Using INLA::inla() with reasonable defaults and settings tuned to predict across a grid.

# Value

A fitted INLA model object created by INLA::inla()

# See Also

MbgModelRunner

generate\_cell\_draws\_and\_summarize

Generate cell draws and summary rasters from INLA model

## Description

Use INLA posteriors to predict out across a grid

# Usage

```
generate_cell_draws_and_summarize(
    inla_model,
    inla_mesh,
    n_samples,
    id_raster,
    covariates,
    inverse_link_function,
    nugget_in_predict = TRUE,
    admin_boundaries = NULL,
    ui_width = 0.95,
    verbose = TRUE
)
```

inla_model	<pre>Output from fit_inla_model()</pre>				
inla_mesh	An SPDE mesh used to define the spatial integration points of the INLA geo- statistical model. Typically created using INLA::inla.mesh.2d() or a similar function.				
n_samples	(numeric) Number of posterior predictive samples to draw.				
id_raster	(terra::SpatRaster) raster showing all cell locations where predictions should be taken.				
covariates	(list) Named list of all covariate effects included in the model, typically generated by load_covariates().				
inverse_link_fu	nction				
	(character) If a link function was used in the INLA model, name of the R func- tion to transform the predictive draws from link space to natural space. For example, in a logit-linked binomial model, pass 'plogis' (as a string is fine) to invert-logit the predictive draws.				
<pre>nugget_in_predi</pre>	ct				
	(logical(1), default TRUE) Should the nugget term be used as an IID noise term applied to each pixel-draw?				
admin_boundaries					
	(sf object, default NULL) The same admin boundaries used to create the admin- level effect, if one was defined in the model. Only used if an admin-level effect was defined in the model.				

#### load\_covariates

ui_width	(numeric, default 0.95) Size of the uncertainty interval width when calculating
	the upper and lower summary rasters
verbose	(logical(1), default TRUE) Log progress for draw generation?

# Details

Based on a fitted INLA model, the survey area defined in an ID raster, and a set of covariates, generate predictive grid cell draws and summary rasters across a study area.

#### Value

Named list containing at least the following items:

- "parameter\_draws": posterior samples generated from INLA::inla.posterior.sample()
- "cell\_draws": A matrix of grid cell draws. Each row represents a non-NA pixel in the id\_raster, in the same order that would be pulled by terra::values(), and each column represents a different posterior draw.
- "cell\_pred\_mean": Mean predictive estimate by grid cell, formatted as a terra SpatRaster
- "cell\_pred\_lower": Lower bound of (X%) uncertainty interval, formatted as a terra SpatRaster
- "cell\_pred\_upper": Upper bound of (X%) uncertainty interval, formatted as a terra SpatRaster

load\_covariates Load covariates

## Description

Load covariates

## Usage

```
load_covariates(
  directory,
  covariates_table,
  id_raster,
  year = NULL,
  file_format = "tif",
  add_intercept = FALSE,
  check_previous_years = 10
)
```

#### Arguments

directory Directory containing all covariate sub-directories covariates\_table

data.frame containing at least the following fields:

• 'covariate': (character): Name of the covariate

ual': (logical) Does the covariate vary by year? If so, look for the year ne name of the file. asform': (character) Name of a function to use to transform the covari- Common options include 'identity' (no transformation), 'sqrt', 'abs', 'log1p' malize': (logical) Should the covariate be rescaled to have mean 0 and dard deviation 1 across all pixels in the study area? Generally should et to TRUE for predictive covariates.	
atRaster with non-NA pixels delineating the extent of the study area	
c, default NULL) Year of data to for time-varying covariates. If NULL, ilt, uses the current year.	
ter, default 'tif') File format for the raster covariate data. Used to r the input file within the proper containing folder.	
l, default FALSE) Should a covariate called "intercept", a raster object n all required cells, be placed at the start of the returned covariates list?	
check_previous_years	
r > 0, default 10) If annual data is not found in this year, how many years should be checked? If 0, will not check any previous years.	

#### Details

Load a list of covariates from a specified directory structure

# Value

A named list of formatted covariates. Each list item is a terra::SpatRaster with one layer and the same dimensions as the id\_raster

logging\_get\_timer\_log Get timer log

# Description

Return a log of all timed events as a data.table

## Usage

```
logging_get_timer_log(clear_log = FALSE, deindent = TRUE)
```

clear_log	(logical(1), default FALSE) Should the log be cleared afterwards?
deindent	(logical(1), default TRUE) Should leading whitespace be removed from timer
	messages?

## logging\_start\_timer

## Examples

```
mbg::logging_start_timer(msg = 'Test logging')
Sys.sleep(0.1)
mbg::logging_stop_timer()
log_results <- mbg::logging_get_timer_log()
print(log_results)</pre>
```

logging\_start\_timer Start logging timer

## Description

Start a nested timer with an optional message

## Usage

```
logging_start_timer(msg, echo = TRUE, indentation_text = " ")
```

## Arguments

msg	(character(1)) Logging message
echo	(logical(1), default TRUE) Should the message be written to screen?
indentation_te	xt
	(character(1), default " ") Text that will be repeated at the beginning of the message for each layer of indentation

# Examples

```
mbg::logging_start_timer(msg = 'Test logging')
Sys.sleep(0.1)
mbg::logging_stop_timer()
log_results <- mbg::logging_get_timer_log()
print(log_results)</pre>
```

logging\_stop\_timer End logging timer

## Description

End a nested timer

#### Usage

logging\_stop\_timer(echo = TRUE)

#### Arguments

echo

(logical(1), default = TRUE) Should the message be written to screen?

## Examples

```
mbg::logging_start_timer(msg = 'Test logging')
Sys.sleep(0.1)
mbg::logging_stop_timer()
log_results <- mbg::logging_get_timer_log()
print(log_results)</pre>
```

log\_posterior\_density Generate log posterior predictive density from a geostatistical surface onto point data

# Description

Generate log posterior predictive density from a geostatistical surface onto point data

#### Usage

```
log_posterior_density(draws, validation_data, id_raster, na.rm = FALSE)
```

draws	(matrix) A predictive draw matrix, where each row corresponds to a pixel in the id_raster and each column corresponds to one sampled estimate of the outcome.
validation_dat	a
	(data.frame) Table containing at least the following fields:
	• x (numeric) location x position, in the same projection as id_raster
	• y (numeric) location y position, in the same projection as id_raster
	• indicator (integer) The number of events in the population
	• samplesize (integer) The total population, denominator for indicator
id_raster	(terra::SpatRaster) Raster showing the sample study area, created using build_id_raster.
na.rm	(logical(1), default FALSE) Should NA values be omitted from the LPD cal- culation?

make\_time\_stamp

#### Details

Calculated across draws. Requires an ID raster to match each point observation to a set of draws. Assumes binomial data.

```
For examples, see vignette('model-comparison', package = 'mbg')
```

#### Value

(numeric(1)) Log predictive density of the validation data given the draw estimates.

make\_time\_stamp Make time stamp

#### Description

Create a string time stamp based on current detailed date/time

#### Usage

```
make_time_stamp(suffix = NULL, milliseconds = TRUE)
```

#### Arguments

suffix	(character(1), default NULL) suffix to append to the time stamp. Useful when running batches of related models
milliseconds	(logical(1), default TRUE) Should milliseconds be appended to the times- tamp? Useful when launching many models in quick succession.

## Value

A string formatted as 'YYYYMMDD\_HH\_MM\_SS(\_optional MS)(\_optional suffix)'

make\_world\_template\_raster

Make world template raster

## Description

Create a template raster for the world with approximately 5x5km resolution at the equator, matching many common raster covariates for health.

## Usage

```
make_world_template_raster()
```

#### Details

The raster has the following specifications:

- 4320 rows, 8640 columns
- Resolution: 0.04166667 decimal degrees, approx. 5km at the equator
- CRS: WGS 1984 unprojected latitude/longitude, terra::crs('EPSG:4326')
- Values: All NA. Used exclusively for creating a shapefile-specific ID raster

#### Value

terra::SpatRaster object matching the specifications above

MbgModelRunnerMBG model runner class

#### Description

R6 class to run a full MBG model and make predictions.

#### Details

To see examples of this object, run vignette('mbg')

#### **Public fields**

input\_data (data.table::data.table) Table containing at least the following fields:

- x (numeric) location longitude in decimal degrees
- y (numeric) location latitude in decimal degrees
- indicator (integer) The number of events in the population
- samplesize (integer) The total population, denominator for indicator

```
id_raster (terra::SpatRaster)
```

raster showing the total area that will be predicted using this model.

#### covariate\_rasters (list())

A list containing all predictor covariates. Each covariate is a terra::SpatRaster object with the same extent and dimensions as id\_raster.

#### aggregation\_table (data.table::data.table)

A table created by build\_aggregation\_table, used to link each grid cell to higher-level administrative units. aggregation\_levels (list())

A named list: for each named item, the name is the label for that aggregation level, and the value is a character vector of all fields in the original polygons to be used for aggregation at that level.

population\_raster (terra::SpatRaster)

A raster giving population for each grid cell, to be used for population-weighted aggregation from grid cells to polygon boundaries. Should have the same dimensions as id\_raster. If no population raster is passed and the results are aggregated, aggregation will be by simple mean rather than population-weighted mean

```
admin_bounds (sf::sf)
```

Polygons showing the boundaries of administrative divisions within the study region. Only required if use\_admin\_effect OR stacking\_use\_admin\_bounds is TRUE.

admin\_bounds\_id (character)

Field containing unique identifiers for admin\_bounds, if passed.

use\_covariates (logical(1))

Should covariate effects be included in the predictive model?

use\_gp (logical(1))

Should a smoothed spatial surface be included in the predictive model?

use\_admin\_effect (logical(1))

Should IID administrative-level effects be included in the predictive model?

use\_nugget (logical(1))

Should an IID effect by pixel be included in the predictive model?

- use\_stacking (logical(1)) Should machine learning submodels be trained to relate the covariate rasters with the outcome data? Only run if use\_covariates is TRUE.
- stacking\_model\_settings (list())

A named list of submodels to be run. For more information about this term, see run\_regression\_submodels. Only considered if use\_stacking is TRUE.

stacking\_cv\_settings (list())

How should the stacking submodels be cross-validated? For more information about this term, see run\_regression\_submodels. Only considered if use\_stacking is TRUE.

stacking\_use\_admin\_bounds (logical(1))

Should admin boundaries be included as features in the stacking submodels? For more information about this term, see run\_regression\_submodels. Only considered if use\_stacking is TRUE.

stacking\_prediction\_range (logical(1))

Range of possible predictions for the stacking submodels. For more information about this term, see run\_regression\_submodels. Only considered if use\_stacking is TRUE.

mesh\_max\_edge (numeric(2) or NULL)

Maximum size of the INLA SPDE mesh inside (1) and outside (2) of the modeled region. Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE.

mesh\_cutoff (numeric(1))

Minimum size of the INLA mesh, usually reached in data-dense areas. Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE.

spde\_integrate\_to\_zero (boolean(1))

Should the 'volume' under the SPDE mesh integrate to zero? Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE.

prior\_spde\_range (list())

A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for the SPDE range. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold (set as a proportion of the overall mesh extent), and "prob\_below", the prior probability that the value is BELOW that range threshold. The function automatically converts "threshold" from a proportion of the overall mesh extent into a distance. Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE.

prior\_spde\_sigma (list())

A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for sigma (standard deviation) of the SPDE object. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the standard deviation, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that sigma will EXCEED that threshold. Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE

```
prior_nugget (list())
```

A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for the nugget term. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the nugget standard deviation, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that the standard deviation will EXCEED that threshold. Only considered if use\_nugget is TRUE.

```
prior_admin_effect (list())
```

A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for the admin-level IID term. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the standard deviation of admin-level effects, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that the standard deviation will EXCEED that threshold. Only considered if use\_admin\_effect is TRUE.

```
prior_covariate_effect (list())
```

A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for all covariate effects except for the intercept, if an intercept is included. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the size of each fixed effect, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that the beta for each covariate will EXCEED that threshold. Only considered if use\_covariates is TRUE and use\_stacking is FALSE.

```
inla_link (character(1))
```

Link function for fitting the INLA model, typically related to the GLM family.

- inla\_family (character)

GLM family to use. For more information, see stats::family.

```
nugget_in_predict (logical(1))
```

If the nugget is used in model fitting, should it also be included as an IID effect by pixel in the model prediction step?

verbose Should model progress be timed?

model\_covariates (list())

A list of covariates to be included in the INLA model. Either equal to covariate\_rasters, or ML model predictions for stacked generalization.

inla\_inputs\_list (list())

List of model inputs yielded by prepare\_inla\_data\_stack

```
inla_fitted_model (list())
List of model outputs yielded by fit_inla_model
```

grid\_cell\_predictions List of predictive surfaces yielded by generate\_cell\_draws\_and\_summarize

aggregated\_predictions List of predictions by administrative unit. Only created if aggregation\_table and aggregation\_levels are both defined.

#### Methods

**Public methods:** 

- MbgModelRunner\$new()
- MbgModelRunner\$prepare\_covariates()
- MbgModelRunner\$fit\_mbg\_model()
- MbgModelRunner\$generate\_predictions()
- MbgModelRunner\$aggregate\_predictions()
- MbgModelRunner\$run\_mbg\_pipeline()
- MbgModelRunner\$get\_predictive\_validity()
- MbgModelRunner\$clone()

#### Method new(): Create a new MbgModelRunner object

```
Usage:
MbgModelRunner$new(
  input_data,
  id_raster,
  covariate_rasters = NULL,
  aggregation_table = NULL,
  aggregation_levels = NULL,
  population_raster = NULL,
  admin_bounds = NULL,
  admin_bounds_id = NULL,
  use_covariates = TRUE,
  use_gp = TRUE,
  use_admin_effect = FALSE,
  use_nugget = TRUE,
  use_stacking = FALSE,
 stacking_cv_settings = list(method = "repeatedcv", number = 5, repeats = 5),
  stacking_model_settings = list(gbm = NULL, treebag = NULL, rf = NULL),
  stacking_use_admin_bounds = FALSE,
  stacking_prediction_range = NULL,
  mesh_max_edge = c(0.2, 5),
  mesh_cutoff = c(0.04),
  spde_integrate_to_zero = FALSE,
  prior_spde_range = list(threshold = 0.1, prob_below = 0.05),
  prior_spde_sigma = list(threshold = 3, prob_above = 0.05),
  prior_nugget = list(threshold = 3, prob_above = 0.05),
  prior_admin_effect = list(threshold = 3, prob_above = 0.05),
  prior_covariate_effect = list(threshold = 3, prob_above = 0.05),
```

```
inla_link = "logit",
inverse_link = "plogis",
inla_family = "binomial",
nugget_in_predict = TRUE,
verbose = TRUE
```

#### Arguments:

input\_data (data.table::data.table) Table containing at least the following fields:

- x (numeric) location x position, in the same projection as the id\_raster
- y (numeric) location y position, in the same projection as the id\_raster
- indicator (integer) The number of events in the population
- samplesize (integer) The total population, denominator for indicator
- id\_raster (terra::SpatRaster) raster showing the total area that will be predicted using this model
- covariate\_rasters (list(), default NULL) A list containing all predictor covariates. Each covariate is a terra::SpatRaster object with the same extent and dimensions as id\_raster.
- aggregation\_table (data.table::data.table) A table created by build\_aggregation\_table, linking each grid cell to one or more polygons
- aggregation\_levels (list()) A named list: for each named item, the name is the label for that aggregation level, and the value is a character vector of all fields in the original polygons to be used for aggregation at that level.
- population\_raster (terra::SpatRaster) A raster giving population for each grid cell, to be used for population-weighted aggregation from grid cells to polygon boundaries. Should have the same dimensions as id\_raster. If no population raster is passed and the results are aggregated, aggregation will be by simple mean rather than population-weighted mean
- admin\_bounds (sf::sf, default NULL) Polygons showing the boundaries of administrative divisions within the study region. Only required if use\_admin\_effect OR stacking\_use\_admin\_bounds is TRUE.
- admin\_bounds\_id (character, default NULL) Field containing unique identifiers for admin\_bounds, if passed.
- use\_covariates (logical(1), default TRUE) Should covariate effects be included in the predictive model?
- use\_gp (logical(1), default TRUE) Should a smoothed spatial surface be included in the predictive model?
- use\_admin\_effect (logical(1) default FALSE) Should IID administrative-level effects be included in the predictive model?
- use\_nugget (logical(1), default TRUE) Should an IID effect by pixel be included in the predictive model?
- use\_stacking (logical(1), default FALSE) Should machine learning submodels be trained to relate the covariate rasters with the outcome data? Only run if use\_covariates is TRUE.

- stacking\_cv\_settings (list()) How should the stacking submodels be cross-validated? For more information about this term, see run\_regression\_submodels. Only considered if use\_stacking is TRUE.
- stacking\_model\_settings (list()) A named list of submodels to be run. For more information about this term, see run\_regression\_submodels. Only considered if use\_stacking is TRUE.
- stacking\_use\_admin\_bounds (logical(1), default FALSE) Should admin boundaries be included as features in the stacking submodels? For more information about this term, see run\_regression\_submodels. Only considered if use\_stacking is TRUE.
- stacking\_prediction\_range (numeric(2), default NULL) Range of possible predictions for the stacking submodels. For more information about this term, see run\_regression\_submodels. Only considered if use\_stacking is TRUE.
- mesh\_max\_edge (numeric(2), default c(0.2, 5)) Maximum size of the INLA SPDE mesh inside (1) and outside (2) of the modeled region. Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE.
- mesh\_cutoff (numeric(1), default 0.04) Minimum size of the INLA mesh, usually reached in data-dense areas. Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE.
- spde\_integrate\_to\_zero (boolean(1), default FALSE) Should the 'volume' under the SPDE
  mesh integrate to zero? Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE.
- prior\_spde\_range (list()) A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for the SPDE range. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold (set as a proportion of the overall mesh extent), and "prob\_below", the prior probability that the value is BELOW that range threshold. The function automatically converts "threshold" from a proportion of the overall mesh extent into a distance. Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE.
- prior\_spde\_sigma (list()) A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for sigma (standard deviation) of the SPDE object. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the standard deviation, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that sigma will EXCEED that threshold. Only considered if use\_gp is TRUE
- prior\_nugget (list()) A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for the nugget term. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the nugget standard deviation, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that the standard deviation will EXCEED that threshold. Only considered if use\_nugget is TRUE.
- prior\_admin\_effect (list()) A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for the admin-level IID term. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the standard deviation of admin-level effects, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that the standard deviation will EXCEED that threshold. Only considered if use\_admin\_effect is TRUE.
- prior\_covariate\_effect (list()) A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for all covariate effects except for the intercept, if an intercept is included. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the size of each fixed effect, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that the beta for each covariate will exceed that threshold. Only considered if use\_covariates is TRUE and use\_stacking is FALSE.
- inla\_link (character(1), default 'logit') Link function for fitting the INLA model, typically related to the GLM family.
- inverse\_link (character(1), default 'plogis') Inverse function of inla\_link.
- inla\_family (character(1), default 'binomial') GLM family to use. For more information, see stats::family().

nugget\_in\_predict (logical(1), default TRUE) If the nugget is used in model fitting, should it also be included as an IID effect by pixel in the model prediction step? verbose (logical(1), default TRUE) Should model progress be timed?

Method prepare\_covariates(): Prepare covariates for MBG model fitting

Usage: MbgModelRunner\$prepare\_covariates()

Method fit\_mbg\_model(): Fit MBG model

Usage: MbgModelRunner\$fit\_mbg\_model()

Method generate\_predictions(): Generate predictions by grid cell

Usage:

MbgModelRunner\$generate\_predictions(n\_samples = 1000, ui\_width = 0.95)

Arguments:

- n\_samples (integer(1), default 1000) Number of posterior predictive samples to generate from the fitted model object.
- ui\_width (numeric(1), default 0.95) Uncertainty interval width. This method will create summary rasters for quantiles ((1 ui\_width)/2) and (1 (1 ui\_width)/2).

Method aggregate\_predictions(): Aggregate grid cell predictions

Usage:

MbgModelRunner\$aggregate\_predictions(ui\_width = 0.95)

Arguments:

ui\_width (numeric(1), default 0.95) Uncertainty interval width. This method will create summary "upper" and "lower" fields rasters for quantiles ((1 - ui\_width)/2) and (1 - (1 ui\_width)/2).

*Returns:* List with the same names as self\$aggregation\_levels, aggregating by the columns specified in self\$aggregation\_levels

**Method** run\_mbg\_pipeline(): Run a full MBG pipeline, including stacking, MBG model fitting, and prediction

Usage:

MbgModelRunner\$run\_mbg\_pipeline(n\_samples = 1000, ui\_width = 0.95)

Arguments:

n\_samples (integer(1), default 1000) Number of posterior predictive samples to generate from the fitted model object.

ui\_width (numeric(1), default 0.95)

**Method** get\_predictive\_validity(): Get predictive validity metrics for the fitted model

Usage:

```
MbgModelRunner$get_predictive_validity(
    in_sample = TRUE,
    validation_data = NULL,
    na.rm = FALSE
)
```

Arguments:

- in\_sample (logical(1), default TRUE) Compare model predictions to the data used to generate the model? If FALSE, does not return the WAIC, which is only useful for in-sample predictive validity.
- validation\_data (data.table::data.table, default NULL) Observed data to compare against. Expected for out-of-sample model validation. Table containing at least the following fields:
  - x (numeric) location x position, in the same projection as the id\_raster
  - y (numeric) location y position, in the same projection as the id\_raster
  - indicator (integer) The number of events in the population
  - samplesize (integer) The total population, denominator for indicator
- na.rm (logical(1), default FALSE) Should NA values be dropped from the RMSE and log
  predictive density calculations?

*Details:* Returns the point RMSE (compared against the mean estimates by pixel), log-posterior density (compared against the predictive draws), and the Watanabe-Aikake Information Criterion (WAIC, only returned for in-sample predictive validity).

Returns: data.table::data.table Containing the following fields:

- 'rmse': Root mean squared error when compared against the mean estimates by pixel. Lower RMSE is better.
- 'lpd': Log posterior predictive density when compared against pixel-level samples from the model. Higher LPD is better.
- 'waic' (in-sample only): Watanable-Aikake information criterion estimated by INLA. Lower WAIC is better.
   For clarity, these fields will have the suffix "\_is" for in-sample models, and "\_oos" for out-of-sample models.

Method clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

Usage:

MbgModelRunner\$clone(deep = FALSE)

Arguments:

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

prepare\_inla\_data\_stack

Prepare data stack for INLA

## Description

Prepare data stack for INLA

## Usage

```
prepare_inla_data_stack(
  input_data,
  id_raster,
  covariates,
  use_covariates = TRUE,
  covariates_sum_to_one = FALSE,
  family = "binomial",
  use_spde = TRUE,
  spde_range_pc_prior = list(threshold = 0.1, prob_below = 0.05),
  spde_sigma_pc_prior = list(threshold = 3, prob_above = 0.05),
  spde_integrate_to_zero = TRUE,
 mesh_max_edge = c(0.2, 5),
 mesh_cutoff = 0.04,
  use_nugget = TRUE,
  nugget_pc_prior = list(threshold = 3, prob_above = 0.05),
  use_admin_effect = FALSE,
  admin_boundaries = NULL,
  admin_pc_prior = list(threshold = 3, prob_above = 0.05)
)
```

input_data	A data.frame with at least the following columns:
	• 'indicator': number of "hits' per site, e.g. tested positive for malaria
	• 'samplesize': total population sampled at the site
	• 'x': x position, often longitude
	• 'y': y position, often latitude
id_raster	terra::SpatRaster with non-NA pixels delineating the extent of the study area
covariates	(list) Named list of all covariate effects included in the model, typically gener- ated by load_covariates(). Only used if use_covariates is TRUE.
use_covariates	(boolean(1), default TRUE) Should covariate fixed effects be included in the model? If TRUE, includes fixed effects for all covariates in the covariates argument. If FALSE, includes only an intercept.

covariates\_sum\_to\_one

(logical, default FALSE) Should the input covariates be constrained to sum to one? Usually FALSE when raw covariates are passed to the model, and TRUE if running an ensemble (stacking) model.

- family (character(1), default 'binomial') Statistical family; used to link stacked covariates with outcomes
- use\_spde (boolean(1), default TRUE) Should an SPDE approximation of a Gaussian process be included in the model?
- spde\_range\_pc\_prior

(list) A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for the SPDE range. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold (set as a proportion of the overall mesh extent), and "prob\_below", the prior probability that the value is BELOW that range threshold. The function automatically converts "threshold" from a proportion of the overall mesh extent into a distance.

#### spde\_sigma\_pc\_prior

(list) A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for sigma (standard deviation) of the SPDE object. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the standard deviation, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that sigma will EXCEED that threshold.

spde\_integrate\_to\_zero

(boolean(1), default TRUE) Should the 'volume' under the SPDE mesh integrate to zero?

- mesh\_max\_edge (numeric(2), default c(0.2, 5)) Maximum size of the INLA SPDE mesh inside (1) and outside (2) of the modeled region.
- mesh\_cutoff (numeric(1), default 0.04) Minimum size of the INLA mesh, usually reached in data-dense areas.
- use\_nugget (boolean(1), default TRUE) Should a nugget (IID observation-level error or noise) term be included?

#### nugget\_pc\_prior

A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for the nugget term. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the nugget standard deviation, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that the standard deviation will EXCEED that threshold. Only used if use\_nugget is TRUE

#### use\_admin\_effect

(boolean(1), default FALSE) Should an IID random effect by administrative unit be included?

#### admin\_boundaries

(sf object, default NULL) admin boundaries spatial object. Only used if use\_admin\_effect is TRUE

admin\_pc\_prior (list) A named list specifying the penalized complexity prior for the adminlevel IID term. The two named items are "threshold", the test threshold for the standard deviation of admin-level effects, and "prob\_above", the prior probability that the standard deviation will EXCEED that threshold. Only used if use\_admin\_effect is TRUE.

#### Details

Creates the formatted input data to be used by the INLA model. For more information about penalized complexity priors, see Daniel Simpson's paper on the subject: doi:10.1214/16STS576

## Value

List containing the following items:

- "mesh": The mesh used to approximate the latent Gaussian process
- "spde": The SPDE object that will be used to fit the INLA model
- "inla\_data\_stack": The data stack to be passed to INLA::inla()
- "formula\_string": The formula specification to be passed to INLA::inla()

#### See Also

fit\_inla\_model() MbgModelRunner

rmse\_raster\_to\_point Generate RMSE from an estimated raster surface and point data

#### Description

Generate RMSE from an estimated raster surface and point data

#### Usage

```
rmse_raster_to_point(estimates, validation_data, outcome_field, na.rm = FALSE)
```

estimates	(terra::SpatRaster) Raster surface containing point estimates. This could also be the mean surface of a Bayesian geostatistical model
validation_data	a
	(data.frame)
	Table containing at least the following fields:
	• x (numeric) location x position, in the same projection as estimates
	• y (numeric) location y position, in the same projection as estimates
	• (Outcome field) See below
outcome_field	(character(1)) Column in validation_data containing the values that should be compared against the estimates raster surface.
na.rm	(logical(1), default FALSE) Should NA values be dropped from the RMSE calculation?

# Details

For examples, see vignette('model-comparison', package = 'mbg')

#### Value

A single number giving RMSE between the point data and estimates raster.

run\_regression\_submodels

Run regression sub-models

# Description

Wrapper to run many regression sub-models using the caret package

# Usage

```
run_regression_submodels(
    input_data,
    id_raster,
    covariates,
    cv_settings,
    model_settings,
    family = "binomial",
    clamping = TRUE,
    use_admin_bounds = FALSE,
    admin_bounds_id = "polygon_id",
    prediction_range = c(-Inf, Inf),
    verbose = TRUE
)
```

input_data	A data.frame with at least the following columns:
	• 'indicator': number of "hits' per site, e.g. tested positive for malaria
	• 'samplesize': total population sampled at the site
	• 'x': x position, often longitude
	• 'y': y position, often latitude
id_raster	terra::SpatRaster with non-NA pixels delineating the extent of the study area
covariates	(list) Named list of all covariate effects included in the model, typically gener- ated by load_covariates().
cv_settings	Named list of cross-validation settings, passed to caret::trainControl.
<pre>model_settings</pre>	Named list where the name of each header corresponds to a model run in caret::train, and the arguments correspond to the model-specific settings for that model type.

family	(character(1), default 'binomial') Statistical model family being evaluated. For Gaussian models, this function trains against the 'mean' field; for all other families, this function trains against the ratio of 'indicator':'samplesize'.
clamping	(logical(1), default TRUE) Should the predictions of individual ML models be limited to the range observed in the data?
use_admin_bound	ds
	(logical(1), default FALSE) Use one-hot encoding of administrative bound- aries as a candidate feature?
admin_bounds	(sf, default NULL) Administrative boundaries to use. Only considered if use_admin_bounds is TRUE.
admin_bounds_id	d
	(character, default 'polygon_id') Field to use for administrative boundary one- hot encoding. Only considered if use_admin_bounds is TRUE.
prediction_rang	ge
	(numeric(2), default c(-Inf, Inf)) Prediction limits for the outcome range. Used when the predictions are in a limited range, for example, 0 to 1 or $-1$ to 1.
verbose	(logical(1), default TRUE) Log progress for ML model fitting?

# Value

List with two items:

- "models": A list containing summary objects for each regression model
- "predictions": Model predictions covering the entire id\_raster

summarize\_draws Summarize draws

# Description

Helper function to summarize a matrix or data.frame of predictive draws

## Usage

```
summarize_draws(
    draws,
    id_fields = NULL,
    draw_fields = NULL,
    ui_width = 0.95,
    na.rm = TRUE
)
```

#### Arguments

draws	A matrix, data.frame, or data.table::data.table of predictive draws.
id_fields	(default NULL) Only considered for data.frame-like draws. What identifier fields in the data should be kept in the summary table and not included among the draw fields?
draw_fields	(default NULL) Only considered for data.frame-like draws. What fields represent actual draws, as opposed to identifier fields or other metadata like population? If NULL, the default, automatically determines the draw fields as all columns not included in the id_fields.
ui_width	(numeric, default 0.95) Size of the uncertainty interval width when calculating the upper and lower summary rasters
na.rm	(logical, default TRUE) Should NA values be removed when calculating summaries across draws?

#### Value

A data.table::data.table containing at least the following fields:

- The id\_fields, if passed
- "mean": Mean across predictive draws
- "lower": Lower bound of the (X%) uncertainty interval
- "upper": Upper bound of the (X%) uncertainty interval
- "ui\_width": "upper" "lower"

# Examples

```
# Summarize a draws matrix
draws_matrix <- matrix(rnorm(200), nrow = 10)
summary_table_a <- summarize_draws(draws_matrix)
head(summary_table_a)
# Summarize a draws data.table with location IDs
```

```
draws_table <- matrix(c(1:10, rnorm(200)), nrow = 10) |>
    data.table::as.data.table() |>
    data.table::setnames(c('location_id', paste0('draw_', 1:20)))
summary_table_b <- summarize_draws(draws_table, id_fields = 'location_id')
head(summary_table_b)</pre>
```

values\_to\_raster Insert values into a raster

## Description

Insert a vector or matrix of values into an ID spatRaster

#### Usage

values\_to\_raster(x, id\_raster)

#### Arguments

x	Vector, matrix, data.frame, or data.table of values that will be inserted into the ID raster. The length of x must be exactly divisible by sum(!is.na(terra::values(id_raster))). Data.frames are converted to matrices, and then matrices are converted to vec- tors using as.matrix() and as.vector() respectively before processing. For that reason, data.frames should only contain fields with values to be inserted (such as a data.frame of draws).
id_raster	ID raster showing the outline of the study area, created using build_id_raster(). Should have 1 layer.

# Details

The length of the vector or matrix must be a multiple of the number of non-NA pixels in the ID raster. Values from the vector/matrix are then inserted into the non-NA pixels of the spatRaster.

## Value

SpatRaster with the same outline as the ID raster and (# values / # non-NA pixels in the ID raster) layers.

## See Also

build\_id\_raster()

#### Examples

```
# Example ID raster with 10 rows and 10 columns, and 99 valid pixels
example_id_raster <- terra::rast(matrix(c(seq_len(99), NA), nrow = 10))
# Inserting 99 values yields a spatRaster with 1 layer
mbg::values_to_raster(stats::rnorm(99), example_id_raster)
# Inserting 99 * 3 values yields a spatRaster with 3 layers
mbg::values_to_raster(seq_len(99 * 3), example_id_raster)
# Trying to insert values with length not divisible by 99 yields an error
try(mbg::values_to_raster(seq_len(100), example_id_raster))
```

vif\_covariate\_select Run variance inflation factor (VIF) selection on input covariates

#### Description

Run variance inflation factor (VIF) selection on input covariates

# vif\_covariate\_select

# Usage

```
vif_covariate_select(dataset, vif_cutoff = 5)
```

# Arguments

dataset	data.frame-like object with named columns containing all covariates to consider in the VIF analysis.
vif_cutoff	(numeric(1)) Cutoff for maximum variance inflation factor in dataset

# Value

data.table listing each variable, VIF in most recent round, and whether the indicator should be included or not

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