

# Package ‘cppSim’

September 3, 2025

**Title** Fast and Memory Efficient Spatial Interaction Models

**Version** 0.2

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**Description** Building on top of the 'RcppArmadillo' linear algebra functionalities to do fast spatial interaction models in the context of urban analytics, geography, transport modelling. It uses the Newton root search algorithm to determine the optimal cost exponent and can run country level models with thousands of origins and destinations. It aims at implementing an easy approach based on matrices, that can originate from various routing and processing steps earlier in an workflow. Currently, the simplest form of production, destination and doubly constrained models are implemented.  
Schlosser et al. (2023) <[doi:10.48550/arXiv.2309.02112](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2309.02112)>.

**Date** 2025-08-29

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**URL** <https://ischlo.github.io/cppSim/>, <https://github.com/ischlo/cppSim>

**Depends** R (>= 3.6)

**Imports** Rcpp

**Suggests** data.table, foreach, knitr, rlist, rmarkdown, cli, sf,  
testthat (>= 3.0.0)

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppArmadillo

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**LazyDataCompression** bzip2

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.1

**SystemRequirements** Quarto command line tools  
(<https://github.com/quarto-dev/quarto-cli>).

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Repository** CRAN

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calibration_cpp	<i>Calibrating the balancing factors</i>
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### Description

Function to calibrate the A and B coefficients of the gravity model through

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cpp_found_openmp	<i>Function to check availability of OPENMP to run in parallel. If openmp is found, this function returns TRUE</i>
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### Description

Function to check availability of OPENMP to run in parallel. If openmp is found, this function returns TRUE

### Usage

cpp\_found\_openmp()

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<code>distance_test</code>	<i>distance_test</i>
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**Description**

`distance_test`

**Usage**

`distance_test`

**Format**

`distance_test`:

A 983x983 matrix of distances between MSOAs in London. Computed using the London road network from OpenStreetMap and the `cppRouting` package.

**Source**

Ivann Schlosser, 2022

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<code>flows_london</code>	<i>flows_london</i>
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**Description**

`flows_london`

**Usage**

`flows_london`

**Format**

`flows_london`:

A `data.table` with flows information

**Source**

ONS, Office for National Statistics, 2011

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flows_test	<i>flows_test</i>
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**Description**

flows\_test

**Usage**

flows\_test

**Format**

flows\_test:

A matrix of size 983x983 containing flows of users using walking or cycling as the main method of commute.

**Source**

UK Census, 2011

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london_msoa	<i>london_msoa</i>
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**Description**

london\_msoa

**Usage**

london\_msoa

**Format**

london\_msoa:

A data.table with London MSOA, their centroids and geometries

**Source**

ONS, Office for National Statistics, 2011

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run_model	<i>Running doubly constrained model</i>
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**Description**

This function is the C++ implementation of run\_model, it will run a doubly constrained model

**Usage**

```
run_model(flows, distance, beta = 0.25)
```

**Arguments**

flows	A integer matrix of Origin-Destination flows.
distance	a distance matrix between origins and destinations, provide distance in km.
beta	Exponent to use when calculating the cost function.

**Value**

A list containing an integer matrix with predicted values.

**Examples**

```
data(flows_test)
data(distance_test)

model_test <- run_model(flows_test,distance_test)
```

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run_model_cpp	<i>Run model</i>
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**Description**

This function is the C++ implementation of run\_model, it will run a model

**Arguments**

flows	A integer matrix of Origin-Destination flows.
distance	a distance matrix between origins and destinations.
beta	Exponent to use when calculating the cost function.

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run_model_single	<i>Running a singly constrained model</i>
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### Description

This function is the C++ implementation of run\_model, it will run a singly constrained model there must be a match in the dimensions, when running a production constrained model, any(dim(distance) == length(flows)) must be TRUE if no values for weight are provided, a vector with ones is used

### Usage

```
run_model_single(flows, distance, weight = NULL, beta = 0.25)
```

### Arguments

flows	A vector of either origin (production constrained) or destination (attraction constrained) flows.
distance	a distance matrix between origins and destinations, provide distance in km.
weight	a vector of weights for the unconstrained part of the model.
beta	Exponent to use when calculating the cost function, default .25.

### Value

A list containing a matrix with predicted values.

### Examples

```
data(flows_test)
data(distance_test)

flows_test <- apply(flows_test,MARGIN = 1,FUN = sum)

model_test <- run_model_single(flows_test,distance_test)
```

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simulation	<i>Running a whole simulation of a doubly constrained gravity model</i>
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### Description

this script takes flows data, distance matrix, and a reference beta parameter and finds the optimal beta value for the model, runs it, and returns the result and the beta of best fit.

currently only the exp value is accepted for the cost\_fun parameter.

**Usage**

```
simulation(flows_matrix, dist_matrix, beta_offset = 0.25)
```

**Arguments**

`flows_matrix` a integer matrix of flows  
`dist_matrix` a distance matrix containing numeric values in kilometers  
`beta_offset` an offset from 0 from which to start looking for the best fit value.

**Value**

creates a folder based on the `run_name` parameter to which images and files are written. The file `run_name_best_fit.rds` contain the matrices with values from the model , and the quality of fit values for the beta values.

**Examples**

```
data(flows_test)  
data(distance_test)  
  
model <- simulation(flows_test,distance_test)
```

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