Package 'edgebundle'

July 22, 2025

Title Algorithms for Bundling Edges in Networks and Visualizing Flow and Metro Maps

Version 0.4.2

Description Implements several algorithms for bundling edges in networks and flow and metro map layouts. This includes force directed edge bundling <doi:10.1111/j.1467-8659.2009.01450.x>, a flow algorithm based on Steiner trees<doi:10.1080/15230406.2018.1437359> and a multicriteria optimization method for metro map layouts <doi:10.1109/TVCG.2010.24>.

URL https://github.com/schochastics/edgebundle, https://schochastics.github.io/edgebundle/

BugReports https://github.com/schochastics/edgebundle/issues

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Suggests testthat (>= 2.0.0), network, tidygraph

Config/testthat/edition 2

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

LinkingTo Rcpp

Imports Rcpp, igraph, reticulate, interp

Depends R (>= 3.5)

NeedsCompilation yes

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`cali2010` *Migration from California in 2010*

Description

A dataset containing the number of people who migrated from California to other US states

Usage

```
cali2010
```

Format

igraph object

Source

https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/geographic-mobility/state-to-state-migration.html

convert_edges *Convert edges*

Description

converts edges of an igraph/network/tidygraph object into format useable for edge bundling

Usage

```
convert_edges(object, coords)

## Default S3 method:
convert_edges(object, coords)

## S3 method for class 'igraph'
convert_edges(object, coords)

## S3 method for class 'network'
convert_edges(object, coords)

## S3 method for class 'tbl_graph'
convert_edges(object, coords)
```

Arguments

object	graph object
coords	coordinates of vertices

Value

data frame of edges with coordinates

Author(s)

David Schoch

edge_bundle_force *force directed edge bundling*

Description

Implements the classic edge bundling by Holten.

Usage

```
edge_bundle_force(
  object,
  xy,
  K = 1,
  C = 6,
  P = 1,
  S = 0.04,
  P_rate = 2,
  I = 50,
  I_rate = 2/3,
  compatibility_threshold = 0.6,
  eps = 1e-08
)
```

Arguments

object	a graph object (igraph/network/tbl_graph)
xy	coordinates of vertices
K	spring constant
C	number of iteration cycles
P	number of initial edge divisions
S	initial step size
P_rate	rate of edge divisions
I	number of initial iterations
I_rate	rate of iteration decrease per cycle
compatibility_threshold	threshold for when edges are considered compatible
eps	accuracy

Details

This is a re-implementation of https://github.com/upphiminn/d3.ForceBundle. Force directed edge bundling is slow (O(E^2)).

see online for plotting tips

Value

data.frame containing the bundled edges

Author(s)

David Schoch

References

Holten, Danny, and Jarke J. Van Wijk. "Force-Directed Edge Bundling for Graph Visualization." Computer Graphics Forum (Blackwell Publishing Ltd) 28, no. 3 (2009): 983-990.

See Also

edge_bundle_hammer,edge_bundle_stub,edge_bundle_path

Examples

```
library(igraph)
g <- graph_from_edgelist(
    matrix(c(
        1, 12, 2, 11, 3, 10,
        4, 9, 5, 8, 6, 7
    ), ncol = 2, byrow = TRUE), FALSE
)
xy <- cbind(c(rep(0, 6), rep(1, 6)), c(1:6, 1:6))
edge_bundle_force(g, xy)
```

---

edge_bundle_hammer *hammer edge bundling*

Description

Implements the hammer edge bundling by Ian Calvert.

Usage

```
edge_bundle_hammer(object, xy, bw = 0.05, decay = 0.7)
```

Arguments

object	a graph object (igraph/network/tbl_graph)
xy	coordinates of vertices
bw	bandwidth parameter
decay	decay parameter

Details

This function only wraps existing python code from the datashader library. Original code can be found at https://gitlab.com/ianjcalvert/edgehammer. Datashader is a huge library with a lot of dependencies, so think twice if you want to install it just for edge bundling. Check https://datashader.org/user_guide/Networks.h for help concerning parameters bw and decay. To install all dependencies, use install_bundle_py.

see online for plotting tips

Value

data.frame containing the bundled edges

Author(s)

David Schoch

See Also

edge_bundle_force,edge_bundle_stub, edge_bundle_path

`edge_bundle_path` *Edge-Path Bundling*

Description

Implements edge-path bundling.

Usage

```
edge_bundle_path(g, xy, max_distortion = 2, weight_fac = 2, segments = 20)
```

Arguments

`g`	an igraph object
`xy`	coordinates of vertices
`max_distortion`	maximum distortion
`weight_fac`	edge weight factor
`segments`	number of subdivisions of edges

Details

This is a re-implementation of https://github.com/mwallinger-tu/edge-path-bundling

see online for plotting tips

Value

data.frame containing the bundled edges

Author(s)

David Schoch

References

Wallinger, M., Archambault, D., Auber, D., Nollenburg, M., & Peltonen, J. (2021). Edge-Path Bundling: A Less Ambiguous Edge Bundling Approach. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics.

See Also

edge_bundle_hammer,edge_bundle_stub,edge_bundle_force

Examples

```
library(igraph)
g <- graph_from_edgelist(matrix(c(
    1, 2, 1, 6,
    1, 4, 2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 6
), ncol = 2, byrow = TRUE), FALSE)
xy <- cbind(c(0, 10, 25, 40, 50, 50), c(0, 15, 25, 15, 0, -10))
edge_bundle_path(g, xy)
```

---

edge_bundle_stub *stub edge bundling*

Description

Implements the stub edge bundling by Nocaj and Brandes

Usage

```
edge_bundle_stub(
  object,
  xy,
  alpha = 11,
  beta = 75,
  gamma = 40,
  t = 0.5,
  tshift = 0.5
)
```

Arguments

object	a graph object (igraph/tbl_graph). Does not support network objects
xy	coordinates of vertices
alpha	maximal angle (in degree) between consecutive edges in a bundle
beta	angle (in degree) at which to connect two stubs
gamma	maximal overall angle (in degree) of an edge bundle
t	numeric between 0 and 1. control point location
tshift	numeric between 0 and 1. The closer to one, the longer the bigger bundle

Details

see online for plotting tips

Value

data.frame containing the bundled edges

Author(s)

David Schoch

References

Nocaj, Arlind, and Ulrik Brandes. "Stub bundling and confluent spirals for geographic networks." International Symposium on Graph Drawing. Springer, Cham, 2013.

See Also

edge_bundle_hammer,edge_bundle_force, edge_bundle_path

Examples

```
library(igraph)
g <- graph.star(10, "undirected")

xy <- matrix(c(
    0, 0,
    cos(90 * pi / 180), sin(90 * pi / 180),
    cos(80 * pi / 180), sin(80 * pi / 180),
    cos(70 * pi / 180), sin(70 * pi / 180),
    cos(330 * pi / 180), sin(330 * pi / 180),
    cos(320 * pi / 180), sin(320 * pi / 180),
    cos(310 * pi / 180), sin(310 * pi / 180),
    cos(210 * pi / 180), sin(210 * pi / 180),
    cos(200 * pi / 180), sin(200 * pi / 180),
    cos(190 * pi / 180), sin(190 * pi / 180)
), ncol = 2, byrow = TRUE)

edge_bundle_stub(g, xy)
# use ggforce::geom_bezier for plotting
```

---

install_bundle_py *install python dependencies for hammer bundling*

Description

install datashader and scikit-image

Usage

```
install_bundle_py(method = "auto", conda = "auto")
```

Arguments

method	Installation method (by default, "auto" automatically finds a method that will work in the local environment, but note that the "virtualenv" method is not available on Windows)
conda	Path to conda executable (or "auto" to find conda using the PATH and other conventional install locations)

---

metro_berlin *Subway network of Berlin*

Description

A dataset containing the subway network of Berlin

Usage

```
metro_berlin
```

Format

igraph object

References

Kujala, Rainer, et al. "A collection of public transport network data sets for 25 cities." Scientific data 5 (2018): 180089.

---

metro_multicriteria *Metro Map Layout*

Description

Metro map layout based on multicriteria optimization

Usage

```
metro_multicriteria(object, xy, l = 2, gr = 0.0025, w = rep(1, 5), bsize = 5)
```

Arguments

object	original graph
xy	initial layout of the original graph
l	desired multiple of grid point spacing. (l*gr determines desired edge length)
gr	grid spacing. (l*gr determines desired edge length)
w	weight vector for criteria (see details)
bsize	number of grid points a station can move away rom its original position

Details

The function optimizes the following five criteria using a hill climbing algorithm:

- *Angular Resolution Criterion*: The angles of incident edges at each station should be maximized, because if there is only a small angle between any two adjacent edges, then it can become difficult to distinguish between them
- *Edge Length Criterion*: The edge lengths across the whole map should be approximately equal to ensure regular spacing between stations. It is based on the preferred multiple, l, of the grid spacing, g. The purpose of the criterion is to penalize edges that are longer than or shorter than lg.
- *Balanced Edge Length Criterion*: The length of edges incident to a particular station should be similar
- *Line Straightness Criterion*: (not yet implemented) Edges that form part of a line should, where possible, be co-linear either side of each station that the line passes through
- *Octiinearity Criterion*: Each edge should be drawn horizontally, vertically, or diagonally at 45 degree, so we penalize edges that are not at a desired angle see online for more plotting tips

Value

new coordinates for stations

Author(s)

David Schoch

References

Stott, Jonathan, et al. "Automatic metro map layout using multicriteria optimization." IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics 17.1 (2010): 101-114.

Examples

```
# the algorithm has problems with parallel edges
library(igraph)
g <- simplify(metro_berlin)
xy <- cbind(V(g)$lon, V(g)$lat) * 100

# the algorithm is not very stable. try playing with the parameters
xy_new <- metro_multicriteria(g, xy, l = 2, gr = 0.5, w = c(100, 100, 1, 1, 100), bsize = 35)
```

`tnss_dummies` *Sample points for triangulated networks*

Description

uses various sampling strategies to create dummy nodes for the tnss_tree

Usage

```
tnss_dummies(
  xy,
  root,
  circ = TRUE,
  line = TRUE,
  diag = TRUE,
  grid = FALSE,
  rand = FALSE,
  ncirc = 9,
  rcirc = 2,
  nline = 10,
  ndiag = 50,
  ngrid = 50,
  nrand = 50
)
```

Arguments

`xy`	coordinates of "real" nodes
`root`	root node id
`circ`	logical. create circular dummy nodes around leafs.
`line`	logical. create dummy nodes on a straight line between root and leafs.
`diag`	logical. create dummy nodes diagonally through space.
`grid`	logical. create dummy nodes on a grid.
`rand`	logical. create random dummy nodes.
`ncirc`	numeric. number of circular dummy nodes per leaf.
`rcirc`	numeric. radius of circles around leaf nodes.
`nline`	numeric. number of straight line nodes per leaf.
`ndiag`	numeric. number of dummy nodes on diagonals.
`ngrid`	numeric. number of dummy nodes per dim on grid.
`nrand`	numeric. number of random nodes to create.

Value

coordinates of dummy nodes

Author(s)

David Schoch

Examples

```
# dummy nodes for tree rooted in California
xy <- cbind(state.center$x, state.center$y)
xy_dummy <- tnss_dummies(xy, 4)
```

`tnss_smooth` *Smooth a Steiner tree*

Description

Converts the Steiner tree to smooth paths

Usage

```
tnss_smooth(g, bw = 3, n = 10)
```

Arguments

g	Steiner tree computed with tnss_tree
bw	bandwidth of Gaussian Kernel
n	number of extra nodes to include per edge

Details

see see online for tips on plotting the result

Value

data.frame containing the smoothed paths

Author(s)

David Schoch

Examples

```
xy <- cbind(state.center$x, state.center$y)[!state.name %in% c("Alaska", "Hawaii"), ]
xy_dummy <- tnss_dummies(xy, root = 4)
gtree <- tnss_tree(cali2010, xy, xy_dummy, root = 4, gamma = 0.9)
tree_smooth <- tnss_smooth(gtree, bw = 10, n = 10)
```

tnss_tree *Create Steiner tree from real and dummy points*

Description

creates an approximated Steiner tree for a flow map visualization

Usage

```
tnss_tree(
  g,
  xy,
  xydummy,
  root,
  gamma = 0.9,
  epsilon = 0.3,
  elen = Inf,
  order = "random"
)
```

Arguments

g	original flow network (must be a one-to-many flow network, i.e star graph). Must have a weight attribute indicating the flow
xy	coordinates of "real" nodes
xydummy	coordinates of "dummy" nodes
root	root node id of the flow
gamma	edge length decay parameter
epsilon	percentage of points keept on a line after straightening with Visvalingam Algorithm
elen	maximal length of edges in triangulation
order	in which order shortest paths are calculated ("random","weight","near","far")

Details

Use tnss_smooth to smooth the edges of the tree

Value

approximated Steiner tree from dummy and real nodes as igraph object

Author(s)

David Schoch

References

Sun, Shipeng. "An automated spatial flow layout algorithm using triangulation, approximate Steiner tree, and path smoothing." AutoCarto, 2016.

Examples

```
xy <- cbind(state.center$x, state.center$y)[!state.name %in% c("Alaska", "Hawaii"), ]
xy_dummy <- tnss_dummies(xy, root = 4)
gtree <- tnss_tree(cali2010, xy, xy_dummy, root = 4, gamma = 0.9)
```

---

us_flights *Flights within the US*

Description

A dataset containing flights between US airports as igraph object

Usage

```
us_flights
```

Format

igraph object

Source

https://gist.githubusercontent.com/mbostock/7608400/raw

---

us_migration *Migration within the US 2010-2019*

Description

A dataset containing the number of people migrating between US states from 2010-2019

Usage

```
us_migration
```

Format

data.frame

Source

https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/geographic-mobility/state-to-state-migration.html

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