# Package 'vegtable'

September 19, 2020

```
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Title Handling Vegetation Data Sets
Depends R(>= 3.0.0),
      taxlist
Imports foreign,
      methods,
      plotKML,
      qdapRegex,
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      vegdata
Suggests devtools,
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      rmarkdown,
      vegan
Description Import and handling data from vegetation-plot databases, especially
      data stored in 'Turboveg' (<a href="https://www.synbiosys.alterra.nl/turboveg">https://www.synbiosys.alterra.nl/turboveg</a>).
      Also import/export routines for exchange of data with 'Juice'
      (<a href="http://www.sci.muni.cz/botany/juice">http://www.sci.muni.cz/botany/juice</a>) are implemented.
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Collate 'imports.R'
      'NULLing.R'
      'coverconvert-class.R'
      'vegtable-class.R'
      'shaker-class.R'
      'transform.R'
      'clean.R'
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'aggregate.R'
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## Description

Addition of plot observations into existing data sets may implicate merging data frames with vegtable objects.

Since this function will only update slots **samples** and **header**, consistency with slots **layers**, **relations** and **species** have to be checked and accordingly updated in advance.

## Usage

```
add_releves(vegtable, releves, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable,data.frame'
add_releves(
  vegtable,
  releves,
  header,
  abundance,
  split_string,
  usage_ids = FALSE,
  layers = FALSE,
  layers_var,
  format = "crosstable",
```

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```
preserve_ids = FALSE,
    ...
)
```

#### **Arguments**

vegtable An object of class vegtable.

releves A data frame including plot observations to be added into vegtable.
... Further arguments passed to function cross2db() (i.e. na\_strings).

header A data frame (optional) including header information for plots.

abundance A character value (or vector of length 2) indicating the names of abundance

variable in vegtable.

split\_string Character value used to split mixed abundance codes.

usage\_ids Logical value indicating whether species are as taxon usage ids (integers) or

names in releves.

layers Logical value indicating whether layers are included in releves or not.

layers\_var Name of the layer variable in vegtable.

format Character value indicating input format of releves (either "crosstable" or

"databaselist").

preserve\_ids A logical value, whether IDs in input data set should used as ReleveID or not.

Those IDs have to be integers and if one of those already exists in vegtable, an

error will be retrieved.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### See Also

cross2db()

aggregate

Aggregating information into a data frame

## **Description**

This function aggregates information contained in vegtable objects to a summarizing data frame.

This function works in a similar way as crosstable().

#### **Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'formula'
aggregate(x, data, FUN, use_nas = TRUE, ...)
```

as.list 5

#### **Arguments**

x A formula indicating the variables used for the summary.data Either a data frame or an object of class vegtable.

FUN Function used to aggregate values.

use\_nas Logical value indicating whether NA's should be included in categorical vari-

ables or not.

... Further arguments passed to the function stats::aggregate().

#### Value

An object of class data.frame.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### See Also

```
stats::aggregate()
```

as.list

Coerce an S4 object to a list

## Description

Coercion used to explore content in S4 objects.

S4 objects will be coerced to lists, where each slot in the input object becomes a member of the output list. This way allows to explore content and solve problems when validity checks fail.

#### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
as.list(x, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'coverconvert'
as.list(x, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

x an object of class coverconvert or vegtable

... further arguments passed from or to other methods.

#### Value

An object of class list.

6 aspect\_conv-data

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

## **Examples**

```
## Head of slot 'taxonNames'
class(Easplist)
head(Easplist@taxonNames)

## The same after coercing to list
Easplist <- as.list(Easplist)
class(Easplist)
head(Easplist$taxonNames)</pre>
```

aspect\_conv-data

Conversion of aspect classes to azimuth

## Description

Conversion table required to transform values of aspect to azimuth in degrees.

## Usage

```
aspect_conv
```

#### **Format**

A numeric vector of values in degrees for the symbols used as names.

## Author(s)

```
Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>
```

```
aspect_conv[c("N", "S", "ENE", "SSW")]
```

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braun\_blanquet-data

Conversion of Braun-Blanquet codes to cover percentage Cover values conversion as coverconvert object. Object of class coverconvert contains conversion tables usually from a categorical variable (a cover scale) to a numerical one (equivalent percentage cover value). Cover values are stored as range for each level in the scale (minimum and maximum cover value).

#### **Description**

Conversion of Braun-Blanquet codes to cover percentage

Cover values conversion as coverconvert object.

Object of class coverconvert contains conversion tables usually from a categorical variable (a cover scale) to a numerical one (equivalent percentage cover value). Cover values are stored as range for each level in the scale (minimum and maximum cover value).

#### Usage

braun\_blanquet

#### **Format**

An object of class coverconvert.

#### See Also

coverconvert transform()

#### **Examples**

names(braun\_blanquet)
summary(braun\_blanquet)
summary(braun\_blanquet\$b\_bbds)

clean

Clean orphaned records in vegtable object

#### **Description**

Delete entries in slots header and species orphaned by manipulation of slots.

Orphaned records generated by modifications in some slots may cause a loss on the validity of vegtable objects. This function should be applied to optimise the allocated size of a vegtable object, as well. Since running cleaning only once does not assure the deletion of all orphaned entries, it is recommended to run it at least twice. This repetition of cleaning is controlled by the argument times.

8 count\_taxa

#### Usage

```
clean_once(object)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
clean(object, times = 2, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

object A vegtable object.

times Numeric value indicating how many times should be the cleaning be repeated.

. . . Further arguments passed from or to other methods.

#### Value

A clean vegtable object.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

count\_taxa

Count taxa included in vegtable objects

#### **Description**

Counting number of taxa within taxlist objects or character vectors containing taxon names.

This function provides a quick calculation of taxa in vegtable objects, considering only records in slot samples. Such records can be also merged from lower ranks.

For the formula method, units without any requested taxa will not appear in the output data frame. If no taxa at all is occurring at the requested level in any unit, an error message will be retrieved.

#### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable,missing'
count_taxa(object, level, include_lower = FALSE, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'formula,vegtable'
count_taxa(
   object,
   data,
   include_lower = FALSE,
   suffix = "_count",
   in_header = FALSE,
   ...
)
```

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#### **Arguments**

object An object of class vegtable or a formula.

level Character value indicating the taxonomic rank of counted taxa.

include\_lower Logical value, whether lower taxonomic ranks should be included at the re-

quested level.

... further arguments passed among methods.

data An object of class vegtable.

suffix Character value used as suffix on the calculated variable.

in\_header Logical value, whether the result should be included in the slot header of the

input vegtable object or not. A warning message is provided if the calculation is

not done for every plot observation.

#### Value

An data frame with the number of taxa from requested level at requested units for the formula method, or just an integer value.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### **Examples**

```
## Different alternatives
count_taxa(Kenya_veg)
head(count_taxa(~ ReleveID, Kenya_veg))
head(count_taxa(species ~ ReleveID, Kenya_veg))
head(count_taxa(species ~ ReleveID, Kenya_veg, TRUE))
head(count_taxa(family ~ ReleveID, Kenya_veg, TRUE))
```

coverconvert

Cover conversion tables

#### **Description**

Cover conversion tables for vegtable objects.

This class implements conversions from different cover scales in percentage cover. For transformations to percentage cover, the function transform() should be than used.

#### **Slots**

value List containing the levels of each scale.

conversion List with the respective start and end cut levels for the scale levels.

10 crosstable

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### See Also

tv2coverconvert() braun\_blanquet.

#### **Examples**

```
showClass("coverconvert")

## Add a custom scale
Scale <- new("coverconvert")
Scale$my_scale <- list(
  value=factor(c("low","medium","high"), levels=c("low","medium","high")),
  conversion=c(0,50,75,100))
summary(Scale)</pre>
```

crosstable

Generating cross tables from database lists

#### **Description**

This function is generating cross tables, which are the most common format used by statistical packages analysing vegetation data (e.g. vegan::vegan).

Most applications and displays of vegetation data use preferentially the cross table format. For convenience, the formula has the form abundance  $\sim$  plot + species + ...{}. Additional variables used for rows (...{}) can be for instance the layers.

For objects of class vegtable, the formula can also include variables from the species list (for example AcceptedName, AuthorName) or even taxon traits.

## Usage

```
crosstable(formula, data, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'formula,data.frame'
crosstable(
  formula,
  data,
  FUN,
  na_to_zero = FALSE,
  use_nas = TRUE,
  as_matrix = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

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```
## S4 method for signature 'formula, vegtable'
crosstable(formula, data, FUN, na_to_zero = FALSE, use_nas = TRUE, ...)
cross2db(object, layers = FALSE, na_strings)
```

#### **Arguments**

formula	A formula indicating the variables used in the cross table.
data	Either a data frame or an object of class vegtable.
	Further arguments passed to the function stats::aggregate().
FUN	Function used to aggregate values.
na_to_zero	A logical value indicating whether zeros should be inserted into empty cells or not.
use_nas	Logical value indicating whether NAs should be considered as levels for categorical variables or not.
as_matrix	A logical value, whether output should be done as matrix or data frame.
object	A data frame including a cross table.
layers	Logical value, whether the cross table includes a layer column or not.

Character vector indicating no records in the cross table.

#### Value

na\_strings

An object of class data.frame.

## Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

12 df2vegtable

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Convert a data frame into a vegtable object.

#### **Description**

Conversion of a data frame containing a cross table of abundance or cover of species in single plots.

This function coerces a data frame containing a vegetation cross table into a vegtable object. The input data frame x may include information on the layers or not.

#### Usage

```
df2vegtable(x, species, layer, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'data.frame,numeric,numeric'
df2vegtable(x, species, layer, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'data.frame,numeric,missing'
df2vegtable(x, species, layer, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

x A data frame formatted for a taxlist object.

species Numeric or integer indicating the position of the column with species names.

layer Numeric or integer indicating the position of the column with layers.

... Further arguments passed from or to other methods.

#### Value

A vegtable object.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

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```
summary(dune_veg)
## Adding environmental variables
dune.env$ReleveID <- as.integer(rownames(dune.env))
header(dune_veg) <- dune.env
summary(dune_veg)</pre>
```

dune\_veg-data

Dutch dune meadows as vegtable Data set from the package vegan::vegan, converted to a vegtable object.

## Description

Dutch dune meadows as vegtable

Data set from the package vegan::vegan, converted to a vegtable object.

## Usage

dune\_veg

## **Format**

An object of class vegtable.

#### **Source**

Original data were imported from vegan::dune.

## References

Jongman RHG, ter Braak CJF, van Tongeren OFR (1987). Data analysis in community and landscape ecology. Pudoc, Wageningen, NL.

```
summary(dune_veg)
```

14 Extract

Extract

Select or replace elements in objects

### **Description**

Methods for quick access to slot header of vegtable objects or for access to single cover scales in coverconvert objects. Also replacement methods are implemented.

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
x$name

## S4 replacement method for signature 'vegtable,ANY'
x$name <- value

## S4 method for signature 'coverconvert'
x$name

## S4 replacement method for signature 'coverconvert,list'
x$name <- value

## S4 method for signature 'vegtable,ANY,ANY'
x[i, j, ..., drop = FALSE]

## S4 replacement method for signature 'vegtable,ANY,ANY,ANY'
x[i, j] <- value</pre>
```

#### **Arguments**

X	Object of class vegtable.
name	A name to access.
value	Either a vectors or a list, used as replacement.
i, j	Indices for access.
	Further arguments passed to or from other methods.
drop	A logical value passed to Extract.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

```
## Range of latitude values in database
range(Kenya_veg$LATITUDE)
```

header 15

```
## Summary of countries
summary(Kenya_veg$COUNTRY)
summary(droplevels(Kenya_veg$COUNTRY))
## First 5 samples
summary(Kenya_veg[1:5,])
```

header

Retrieve or replace slot header in vegtable objects

## **Description**

Retrieve or replace the content of slot header in vegtable objects.

#### Usage

```
header(x, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
header(x, ...)
header(x) <- value
## S4 replacement method for signature 'vegtable,data.frame'
header(x) <- value</pre>
```

## **Arguments**

x Object of class vegtable.

. . . Further arguments passed to or from other methods.

value Data frame to be set as slot header.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

```
head(header(Kenya_veg))
```

16 Kenya\_veg-data

Kenya\_veg-data

Vegetation-plots from Kenya

#### **Description**

A subset of http://www.givd.info/ID/AF-00-006SWEA-Dataveg including five references providing plots collected in Kenya.

#### Usage

Kenya\_veg

#### **Format**

An object of class vegtable.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com> and Michael Curran <currmi01@gmail.com>

#### **Source**

http://www.givd.info/ID/AF-00-006

#### References

**Bronner G** (1990). *Vegetation and land use in the Mathews Range area, Samburu-District, Kenya.* J. Cramer, Berlin.

**Bussmann RW** (1994). The forests of Mount Kenya – vegetation, ecology, destruction and management of a tropical mountain forest ecosystem. Universität Bayreuth.

**Bussmann RW** (**2002**). Islands in the desert – forest vegetation of Kenya's smaller mountains and highland areas. *Journal of East African Natural History* 91: 27–79.

**Fujiwara K, Furukawa T, Kiboi SK, Mathenge S, Mutiso P, Hayashi H, Meguro S (2014).** Forest types and biodiversity around the Great Rift Valley in Kenya. *Contributii Botanice* 49: 143–178.

Schmitt K (1991). The vegetation of the Aberdare National Park Kenya. Universitätsverlag Wagner, Innsbruck.

#### **Examples**

summary(Kenya\_veg)

layers2samples 17

layers2samples	Add information from slot 'layers' into slot 'samples'

#### **Description**

Slot layers may include additional information that should be moved to samples in order to use it by subset(), aggregate() or crosstable() methods.

If names of variables are not provided, all variables from the respective layer table will be inserted in slot samples.

## Usage

```
layers2samples(object, layer, variable, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable, character, character'
layers2samples(object, layer, variable, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable, character, missing'
layers2samples(object, layer, variable, ...)
```

## Arguments

object An object of class vegtable.

layer Character value indicating a target layer.

variable Character vector with the names of variables to be inserted in slot samples.

... Further arguments to be passed among methods.

#### Value

An object of class vegtable with variables added to samples.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>.

18 make\_cocktail

make\_cocktail

Produce a Cocktail classification

#### Description

Classification of vegtable objects according to Cocktail algorithms.

Cocktail algorithms are logical functions selecting plots according to either occurrence of species groups and cover values of single species. A group will be declared as occurring in a plot when at least a half of its members is present in the plot.

This function inserts single columns with logical values indicating whether a plot is classified in the vegetation unit or not. An additional column (name provided in argument syntax) compile all vegetation units, indicating with a + symbol those plots classified in more than one vegetation unit. When only a part of the formulas will be used, it should be specified by the argument which.

These functions are implemented for constructing or complementing shaker objects. Note that construction of those objects will always require a companion object, which is either an object of class taxlist or vegtable.

#### Usage

```
set_group(shaker, companion, group, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'shaker,taxlist,character'
set_group(
  shaker,
  companion,
  group,
  group_id,
 authority = FALSE,
 enc_cont = "latin1",
  enc_gr = "utf8",
)
## S4 method for signature 'shaker, vegtable, character'
set_group(shaker, companion, group, ...)
set_pseudo(shaker, companion, pseudo, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'shaker,taxlist,character'
set_pseudo(
  shaker,
  companion,
  pseudo,
 pseudo_id,
  authority = FALSE,
  enc_cont = "latin1",
```

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```
enc_gr = "utf8",
)
## S4 method for signature 'shaker, vegtable, character'
set_pseudo(shaker, companion, pseudo, ...)
set_formula(shaker, companion, formula, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'shaker,taxlist,character'
set_formula(
  shaker,
  companion,
  formula,
  formula_id,
  authority = FALSE,
  enc_cont = "latin1",
  enc_gr = "utf8",
)
## S4 method for signature 'shaker, vegtable, character'
set_formula(shaker, companion, formula, ...)
make_cocktail(shaker, vegtable, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'shaker, vegtable'
make_cocktail(
  shaker,
  vegtable,
  which,
  cover,
  syntax = "Syntax",
  FUN = sum,
)
```

## Arguments

shaker An object of class shaker containing the respective cocktail definitions.

companion Either a taxlist or a vegtable object.

... Further arguments passes from or to other methods.

authority Logical value indicating whether author names should be included in the taxon

name or not.

enc\_cont, enc\_gr

Encodings used for special characters.

pseudo, group Character vector with names of taxa included in a pseudo-species or a species

group.

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pseudo\_id, group\_id, formula\_id

Character value as name of the pseudo-species, species group or defined vege-

tation unit.

formula Character vector including a formula as definition of a vegetation unit.

vegtable An object of class vegtable containing the vegetation observations to be classi-

fied.

which Integer or character indicating the definition to be applied for classification.

cover Name of the cover variable in vegtable.

syntax Character value indicating the name of the retrieved variable including the final

classification of plots.

FUN Function used for merging multiple occurrence of species in a single plot.

#### Value

A data frame corresponding to the slot header of input object vegtable, including the results of Cocktail classification for the respective plots.

A shaker object.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### References

**Alvarez M (2017).** Classification of aquatic and semi-aquatic vegetation in two East African sites: Cocktail definitions and syntaxonomy. *Phytocoenologia*.

**Bruelheide H (2000).** A new measure of fidelity and its application to defining species groups. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 11: 167–178.

**Kočí M, Chytrý M, Tichý L (2003).** Formalized reproduction of an expert-based phytosociological classification: a case study of subalpine tall-forb vegetation. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 14: 601–610.

#### See Also

shaker vegtable Wetlands

match\_names 21

```
Wetlands <- new("shaker")</pre>
## Set a pseudo-species
Wetlands <- set_pseudo(Wetlands, Wetlands_veg, c("Cyperus latifolius",</pre>
"Cyperus exaltatus"))
## Set a species group
Wetlands <- set_group(Wetlands, Wetlands_veg, group_id="Cyperus papyrus",</pre>
group=c(
                 "Cyperus papyrus",
                 "Cyclosorus interruptus",
                 "Lepistemon owariense"))
## Set a fromula
Wetlands <- set_formula(Wetlands, Wetlands_veg, formula_id="HE1",</pre>
formula="groups:'Cyperus papyrus' | species:'Cyperus papyrus > 50'")
## Summaries
summary(Wetlands)
summary(Wetlands, Wetlands_veg)
```

match\_names

Search matchings between character and taxlist objects.

#### Description

Names provided in a character vector will be compared with names stored in slot taxonNames of an object of class taxlist by using the function stringdist::stringsim().

This method is applied to the slot species in the input vegtable object.

#### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'character,vegtable'
match_names(x, object, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

x A character vector with names to be compared.
 object An object of class vegtable to be compared with.
 ... Further arguments passed to taxlist::match\_names().

## Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### See Also

```
taxlist::match_names() stringdist::stringsim()
```

22 merge\_taxa

rge_taxa Merge concepts
-------------------------

#### **Description**

Merge taxon concepts form into single ones or insert accepted names to slot samples.

This method is applied to a function defined in the package taxlist-package and only modify the slot species in the input object.

The use of taxa2samples() with merge\_to argument will produce a similar result as using merge\_taxa with level argument, but taxa2samples() will replace the records in slot samples by the respective accepted names without any modification in slot species. Additionally taxon concept IDs will be addes as columns in samples and taxon traits if indicated in argument add\_traits.

#### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable,numeric,missing'
merge_taxa(object, concepts, level, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'vegtable,missing,character'
merge_taxa(object, concepts, level, ...)

taxa2samples(object, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
taxa2samples(object, merge_to, include_levels, na.rm = FALSE, add_traits, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

object Object of class vegtable.

Concepts Numeric (integer) vector including taxon concepts to be merged.

level, merge\_to

Character value indicating the level to which the taxa have to be merged.

... Further arguments passed to taxlist::merge\_taxa().

include\_levels Character vector indicating the levels to be considered in the output object. It can be used to exclude some taxonomic ranks.

na.rm Logical value. Apply to records with missing information on taxonomic rank (i.e. for undetermined specimens).

add\_traits A character vector indicating variables in the slot taxonTraits to be added in slot samples.

#### Value

An object of class vegtable.

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#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### **Examples**

names

Retrieve names of vegtable and coverconvert objects

#### **Description**

Quick access to column names in slot header and names of conversion codes.

These methods provide a quick display of the contents in coverconvert and vegtable objects.

#### **Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
names(x)

## S4 replacement method for signature 'vegtable'
names(x) <- value

## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
dimnames(x)

## S4 method for signature 'coverconvert'
names(x)

## S4 replacement method for signature 'coverconvert'
names(x) <- value</pre>
```

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#### Arguments

x An object of class coverconvert or vegtable.

value A character vector used for replacement methods.

#### Value

Either a vector or a list (in the case of dimnames()) with the names of variables.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>.

#### **Examples**

```
names(Kenya_veg@coverconvert)
names(Kenya_veg)
dimnames(Kenya_veg)
```

shaker-class

Class containing Cocktail algorithms.

#### **Description**

Objects used for collecting Cocktail definitions.

These objects work as **expert systems** for recognition of defined vegetation units among plots of a **vegtable** object. A shaker object will be always dependent on a **vegtable** object, which is called companion. Since modifications in the companion may affect the functionality of the shaker object, it will be recommended to create the last during a session by a source script instead of recycling them from old R images.

#### **Slots**

pseudos List containing IDs of taxa that will be merged into pseudo-species.

groups List containing IDs of taxa belonging to the same Cocktail group.

dominants A data frame including lists of species used as dominant species in Cocktail algorithms, as well as operators and cover values used in the formulas.

formulas List with formulas that will be used as definitions for vegetation units.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### See Also

```
make_cocktail() set_pseudo() set_group() set_formula()
```

subset 25

#### **Examples**

```
showClass("shaker")
```

subset

Subset functions for vegtable objects

#### **Description**

Produce subsets of vegtable objects.

This function generate subsets of vegtable objects through logical operations. Such operations can be applied either to the plots, or the relations, which are the main slots in that class.

This method can be referred to the slot species the same way as taxlist::subset(), then the rest of the data will include only references to the subset of species list.

#### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
subset(
    x,
    subset,
    slot = "header",
    keep_children = FALSE,
    keep_parents = FALSE,
    relation,
    ...
)
```

## Arguments

X	A vegtable object for subset.
subset	Logical expression for subset.
slot	Character value indicating the slot used as reference for subset. At the moment only the values "taxonNames", "taxonRelations", "taxonTraits", "header", "samples", and "relations" are accepted. The three first values will be applied to the respective slots in the contained taxlist object (slot <b>species</b> ).
keep_children	Argument passed to taxlist::get_children().
keep_parents	Argument passed to taxlist::get_parents().
relation	Character value indicating the relation (slot <b>relations</b> ) to be used as reference for subset.
	Further arguments passed from or to other methods.

## Value

A S4 object of class vegtable.

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#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### **Examples**

```
## Subset by taxon name
Kenya_sub <- subset(x=Kenya_veg, subset=TaxonName == "Tagetes",</pre>
slot="taxonNames", keep_children=TRUE, keep_parents=TRUE)
summary(Kenya_sub)
summary(Kenya_sub@species)
## Subset by taxon relations
Kenya_sub <- subset(x=Kenya_veg, subset=Level == "species",</pre>
slot="taxonRelations")
summary(Kenya_sub)
summary(Kenya_sub@species)
## Subset by taxon traits
Kenya_sub <- subset(x=Kenya_veg, subset=lf_behn_2018 == "obligate_annual",</pre>
slot="taxonTraits")
summary(Kenya_sub)
summary(Kenya_sub@species)
## Subset by header
Kenya_sub <- subset(x=Kenya_veg, subset=ALTITUDE <= 1000, slot="header")</pre>
summary(Kenya_sub)
## Subset by samples (after converting coverage)
Kenya_veg <- transform(x=Kenya_veg, to="cover_percentage", rule="middle")</pre>
Kenya_sub <- subset(x=Kenya_veg, subset=cover_percentage >= 50, slot="samples")
summary(Kenya_sub)
## Subset by relations
Kenya_sub <- subset(x=Kenya_veg, subset=as.integer(YEAR) >= 2000,
slot="relations", relation="REFERENCE")
summary(Kenya_sub)
```

summary

Summary method for vegtable objects

#### **Description**

Display summaries for vegtable objects.

Those methods are implemented for objects of the classes vegtable, coverconvert and shaker.

The method for class vegtable retrieves the metadata, the size of the object, its validity and additional statistics on the content of input object.

For objects of class shaker, the function summary() will either retrieve general statistics when companion is missing, or a more detailed display when accompained by a taxlist or vegtable object.

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#### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
summary(object, units = "Kb", ...)
## S4 method for signature 'coverconvert'
summary(object, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'shaker'
summary(object, companion, authority = FALSE, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

object Object to be summarized.

units Units used for object size (passed to format()).

... further arguments to be passed to or from other methods.

companion Companion object (either a taxlist or a vegtable object.

authority Logical value indicating whether authors should be displayed or not.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### **Examples**

```
## Summary for 'vegtable' objects
summary(Wetlands_veg)
## Summary for 'coverconvert' objects
summary(braun_blanquet)
## Summary for 'shaker' objects (alone and with companion)
summary(Wetlands, Wetlands_veg)
```

trait\_stats

Statistics and proportion for taxon traits

#### **Description**

Calculation of statistics and proportions of taxon traits for plot observations or groups of observations, considering data relationships, taxonomic ranks and the handling of not available values.

The function trait\_stats() calculates statistics for numeric variables, while the function trait\_proportion() may be used for categorical variables. In the first case, a column with the name of the variable and a suffix will be generated, while in the second case, one additional column per selected trait level will be calculated.

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Both mentioned functions offer the alternative weighted and unweighted calculations (e.g. calculations weighted by the abundance of species). In the particular case of trait\_stats(), customized functions have to be defined as foo(x, w, ...), where w is the weight.

With the arguments taxon\_level and merge\_to the used taxonomic ranks can be defined, where the first one indicates which ranks have to be considered in the calculations and the second one determine the aggregation of taxa from a lower level to a parental one.

Formula methods allow for the calculation of multiple variables at once. The formulas have to be written as  $trait_1 + ... + trait_n \sim head\_var$ .

#### Usage

```
trait_stats(trait, object, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'character, vegtable'
trait_stats(
  trait,
  object,
  FUN,
  head_var,
  taxon_level,
 merge_to,
  weight,
  suffix = "_stats",
  in_header = FALSE,
)
## S4 method for signature 'formula, vegtable'
trait_stats(trait, object, weight, suffix = "_stats", in_header = FALSE, ...)
trait_proportion(trait, object, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'character, vegtable'
trait_proportion(
  trait,
  object,
  head_var,
  trait_level,
  taxon_level,
  merge_to,
  include_nas = TRUE,
  weight,
  suffix = "_prop",
  in_header = FALSE,
)
## S4 method for signature 'formula, vegtable'
```

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```
trait_proportion(trait, object, in_header = FALSE, ...)
```

## Arguments

trait	Either a character value indicating the name of trait variable or a formula including both arguments, trait and head_var.
object	A vegtable object.
•••	Further arguments passed among methods. In the case of the formula method, arguments are passed to the character method.
FUN	A function usually defined as $foo(x,)$ or as $foo(x,w,)$ for weighted statistics.
head_var	Character value, the name of the variable at slot header to be used as aggregation level for the calculation of statistics or proportions. If not provided, the function will use <b>ReleveID</b> by default.
taxon_level	Character value indicating a selected taxonomic rank for the output.
merge_to	Character value indicating the taxonomic rank for aggregation of taxa. All ranks lower than the one indicated here will be assigned to the respective parents at the required taxonomic rank.
weight	Character value indicating the name of the variable at slot <b>samples</b> used as weight for the proportions. Usually the numeric abundance.
suffix	A suffix added to the name of the trait variable or to the levels of categorical trait variables. I is meant to avoid homonymous variables within the same object.
in_header	Logical value indicating whether the output should be inserted in the slot <b>header</b> or provided as data frame.
trait_level	Character vector indicating a selection of levels from a trait, in the case that some levels should be ignored in the output. Trait levels that are skipped at output will be still used for the calculation of proportions. This argument gets only applied for the character method.
include_nas	Logical value indicating whether NAs should be considered for the calculation of proportions or not.

#### Value

A data frame with the proportions of traits levels or statistics for the trait variable, or an object of class vegtable including those results at the slot header.

## Author(s)

```
Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>
```

```
## Cocktail classification of plots
Wetlands_veg@header <- make_cocktail(Wetlands, Wetlands_veg, cover="percen")
## Calculation of proportion of Cyperaceae species in the plot</pre>
```

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```
Wetlands_veg <- trait_proportion("FAMILY", Wetlands_veg, trait_level="Cyperaceae",
weight="percen", include_nas=FALSE, in_header=TRUE)

## Display of proportions per plant community
boxplot(Cyperaceae_prop ~ Syntax, Wetlands_veg@header, col="grey")</pre>
```

transform

Convert cover scales to percent cover

#### **Description**

Convert values of a categorical cover scale to percentage values.

This function requires as input a coverconvert object which contains the conversion tables.

In the case of vegtable objects, the conversion is already embedded in the slot coverconvert.

Three rules are implemented for transformation, either top (values transformed to the top of the range), middle (transformation at the midpoint), and bottom (conversion at the lowest value of the range). In the later case, transformation ranges starting at 0% of cover can be set to a different value by the argument zeroto.

When replace=FALSE, existing values of cover in the vegtable object will be maintained. Since there is not a standard naming of cover values, in the transformation the name of cover variable should be indicated in the argument to.

#### Usage

```
transform(x, conversion, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'character,coverconvert'
transform(x, conversion, from = NULL, rule = "top", zeroto = 0.1, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'factor,coverconvert'
transform(x, conversion, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'numeric,coverconvert'
transform(x, conversion, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable,missing'
transform(x, to, replace = FALSE, rule = "top", zeroto = 0.1, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

x Either a factor or character vector, or a vegtable object.

conversion An object of class vegtable.

.. Further arguments passed from or to other methods.

from Scale name of values in x as character value.

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rule Rule applied for the conversion (see details).

zeroto Value used to replace levels with bottom at 0% cover.

to Name of the column in slot samples for writing converted values.

replace Logical value indicating whether existing cover values should be replaced or

not.

#### Value

Either a vector or a vegtable object.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### **Examples**

```
## Check the available scales
summary(Kenya_veg@coverconvert)

## Conversion by default 'top' rule
Kenya_veg <- transform(Kenya_veg, to="percent")
summary(as.factor(Kenya_veg@samples$percent))

## Conversion by 'middle' rule
Kenya_veg <- transform(Kenya_veg, to="percent", rule="middle", replace=TRUE)
summary(as.factor(Kenya_veg@samples$percent))

## Conversion by 'bottom' rule
Kenya_veg <- transform(Kenya_veg, to="percent", rule="bottom", replace=TRUE)
summary(as.factor(Kenya_veg@samples$percent))</pre>
```

tv2vegtable

Import of vegetation data from Turboveg databases

## **Description**

Import function for **Turboveg** databases into an object of class **vegtable**. Most of the contents of **Turboveg** databases are included in DBF files and therefore imported by the function **foreign::read.dbf()**. The automatic setting of database path will be done by the function **vegdata::tv.home()** but it can be customised by the argument **tv\_home**.

The species list will be imported by using the function taxlist::tv2taxlist() and therefore formatted as a taxlist object. Similarly, conversion tables will be handled as coverconvert objects.

Empty columns in the header will be deleted in the imported object.

The function tv2coverconvert() reads the content of cover conversion tables stored in **Turboveg** and attempts to reformat them in a more comprehensive structure.

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This function is used by tv2vegtable() to import the respective conversion table from Turboveg databases. Note that conversion tables in Turboveg have only stored the middle point for each cover class in a scale, thus it will be recommended to rebuild the coverconvert slot or use braun\_blanquet.

#### Usage

```
tv2vegtable(
  db,
  tv_home = tv.home(),
  skip_empty_relations = TRUE,
  skip_scale,
  clean = TRUE
)
tv2coverconvert(file, as.is = TRUE)
```

#### **Arguments**

db	Name of <b>Turboveg</b> data base as character value.
tv_home	Turboveg installation path as character value.
skip_empty_rela	ations
	Logical value indicating whether empty relations may be excluded from ported database or not.
skip_scale	Character value indicating scales to be excluded in slot coverconvert.
clean	Logical value indicating whether output object should be cleaned or not.
file	A connection to a DBF file containing conversion table in <b>Turboveg</b> .

im-

#### Value

as.is

A vegtable object in the case of tv2vegtable(). A coverconvert object in the case of tv2coverconvert().

## Author(s)

```
Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>
```

## See Also

```
taxlist::tv2taxlist() foreign::read.dbf() vegdata::tv.home()
```

A logical value passed to read.dbf().

```
## Installed 'Turboveg' version of 'Fujiwara et al. (2014)'
TV_Home <- file.path(path.package("vegtable"), "tv_data")</pre>
Veg <- tv2vegtable("Fujiwara_2014", TV_Home)</pre>
summary(Veg)
## Installed 'Turboveg' version of "Fujiwara et al. (2014)"
```

update\_det 33

```
TV_Home <- file.path(path.package("vegtable"), "tv_data", "popup", "Swea")
Table <- tv2coverconvert(file.path(TV_Home, "tvscale.dbf"))

## First scale have to be deleted from conversion table
Table@value <- Table@value[-1]
Table@conversion <- Table@conversion[-1]
summary(Table)

## Compare the 'Turboveg' version with a vegtable version
data(braun_blanquet)
summary(Table$br_bl)
summary(braun_blanquet$br_bl)</pre>
```

update\_det

Update by determined specimens

#### **Description**

Reference specimens can be integrated in slot **layers** within a vegtable object. Updated entries in the specimens can be updated in slot **samples** by using this function. Alternatively expert opinions can be inserted and applied in case of disagreement with the original records.

#### Usage

```
update_det(x, specimens, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable,character'
update_det(x, specimens, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

x A vegtable object to be updated.

specimens A character vector indicating the names of tables included in slot layers with

updates to be applied. Note that they will be applied in the same order of the

vector in the case of multiple updates.

... Further arguments (not yet in use).

34 used\_synonyms

used\_synonyms

Retrieve synonyms or taxon concepts used in a data set

#### **Description**

Plots records are rather linked to plant names than plant taxon concepts. The function used\_synonyms() provides a quick report about synonyms used in a data set (a vegtable object) and their respective accepted names.

Additionally, not all taxon concepts included in the taxonomic list (slot **species**) may be recorded in the plot observations. In that case the function used\_concepts() will optimize the size of the taxonomic list by discarding taxa that are not "in use". Alternatively parents or children of these taxa may be included in the output data set.

#### Usage

```
used_synonyms(x, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
used_synonyms(x, ...)

used_concepts(x, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
used_concepts(x, keep_children = FALSE, keep_parents = FALSE, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x A vegtable object.
```

... Further arguments to be passed from or to another methods.

keep\_children Argument passed to taxlist::get\_children().
keep\_parents Argument passed to taxlist::get\_parents().

#### Value

The function used\_synonyms() returns a data frame including following variables:

SynonymID ID of the taxon usage name applied as synonym.

**Synonym** The synonym itself.

SynonymAuthor Author of synonym.

**TaxonConceptID** ID of the respective taxon concept.

AcceptedNameID ID of the taxon usage name set as accepted name of the taxon concept.

**AcceptedName** The respective accepted name.

**AcceptedNameAuthor** The author of the accepted name.

The function used\_concepts() returns a taxlist object including only taxa occurring in the plot observations of the input vegtable object.

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#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### See Also

```
accepted_name()
```

#### **Examples**

```
## Synonyms used in the Kenya_veg
Synonyms <- used_synonyms(Kenya_veg)
head(Synonyms)</pre>
```

vegtable-class

Class vegtable.

## Description

Class holding vegetation-plot data sets. Designed to content all information stored in **Turboveg** databases in just one object.

This class was designed to include information of relevés, header data and species in just one object. Objects can be created by calls of the form new("vegtable",...).

#### **Slots**

description A named character vector containing metadata.

samples A data frame with samples list.

header A data frame with plots data.

species Species list as a taxlist object.

layers A list including strata within samples as data frames.

relations A list including popup lists as data frames.

coverconvert A scale conversion object of class coverconvert.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### See Also

```
tv2vegtable()
```

```
showClass("vegtable")
```

36 vegtable2kml

vegtable2kml

Mapping of plot observations

#### **Description**

This function is a wrapper of plotKML::kml() producing and displaying KML files. Georeferenced plots can be quickly displayed in Google Earth using this function.

## Usage

```
vegtable2kml(obj, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'data.frame'
vegtable2kml(
  obj,
  file,
  coords = ~Longitude + Latitude,
  srs = CRS("+proj=longlat +datum=WGS84")
)

## S4 method for signature 'vegtable'
vegtable2kml(
  obj,
  file,
  coords = ~LONGITUDE + LATITUDE,
  srs = CRS("+proj=longlat +datum=WGS84")
)
```

#### **Arguments**

obj	Input object containing coordinate values.
	Further arguments passed among methods.
file	Character value with the name of output file (including file extension).
coords	Either a character vector or a formula indicating the names of coordinate values.
srs	Spatial reference system as proj4string.

#### Value

A KML file, which will be automatically opened in Google Earth.

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

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#### **Examples**

```
## Plots containing Podocarpus observations
Kenya_veg@species <- subset(Kenya_veg@species, grepl("Podocarpus", TaxonName),
    slot="names")
Kenya_veg <- subset(Kenya_veg, TaxonUsageID %in%
    Kenya_veg@species@taxonNames$TaxonUsageID, slot="samples")
## Not run: vegtable2kml(Kenya_veg, "Podocarpus.kml")</pre>
```

vegtable\_stat

General statistics from vegtable objects

#### Description

This function calculates general statistics of local **Turboveg** databases as required by GIVD (Global Index of Vegetation-Plot Databases, <a href="https://www.givd.info">https://www.givd.info</a>).

This function is based on a script delivered by GIVD for summarising statistics required in the descriptions of databases (see meta data in the page of the Global Index for Vegetation-Plot Databases).

#### Usage

```
vegtable_stat(vegtable)
```

#### **Arguments**

vegtable

An object of class vegtable.

## Author(s)

GIVD. Adapted by Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

```
## Statistics for GIVD
vegtable_stat(Kenya_veg)
```

38 veg\_relation

veg_relation	Retrieve or replace relations in vegtable objects

#### **Description**

Tables providing information about levels of categorical variables in the header of a **Turboveg** database are called popups in **Turboveg**, but relations in vegtable. Such variables will be converted into factors in the slot header according to the levels and their sorting in the respective relation.

## Usage

```
veg_relation(vegtable, relation, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'vegtable, character'
veg_relation(vegtable, relation, match_header = FALSE, ...)

veg_relation(vegtable, relation) <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'vegtable, character, data.frame'
veg_relation(vegtable, relation) <- value

relation2header(vegtable, relation, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'vegtable, data.frame'
relation2header(vegtable, relation, by, vars, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'vegtable, character'
relation2header(vegtable, relation, ...)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments**

vegtable	An object of class vegtable.
relation	A character value indicating the relation table to be retrieved or replaced.
	Further arguments to be passed among methods.
match_header	A logical vector, whether only levels occurring in slot header should be considered or all.
value	A data frame containing the new veg_relation.
by	Character value indicating the name of the common column used as index for inserting values in slot header.
vars	A character vector with the names of variables to be inserted in slot header.

## Value

This function retrieves and object of class data.frame. In the replacement method, an object of class vegtable, including value in the slot relations.

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#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### **Examples**

```
## overview of references
veg_relation(Kenya_veg, "REFERENCE")
```

Wetlands-data

Vegetation-plots from Tanzania

## Description

A subset of http://www.givd.info/ID/AF-00-006SWEA-Dataveg with plots sampled in Tanzania.

#### Usage

Wetlands

#### **Format**

An object of class shaker (Wetlands) and the respective companion as vegtable object (Wetlands\_veg).

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

#### **Source**

```
http://www.givd.info/ID/AF-00-006.
```

#### References

**Alvarez M (2017).** Classification of aquatic and semi-aquatic vegetation in two East African sites: Cocktail definitions and syntaxonomy. *Phytocoenologia*.

```
summary(Wetlands)
summary(Wetlands_veg)
```

40 write\_juice

write\_juice

Exporting tables for Juice

#### **Description**

This function produce txt files as inport formats for **Juice** (http://www.sci.muni.cz/botany/juice/).

This function produces two output files to be imported into a **Juice** file: A vegetation table produced by crosstable() and a header table. Both tables share the file name plus a suffix (table for the vegetation table and header for the header).

For the import in **Juice**, you go to the menu File -> Import -> Table -> from Spreadsheet File (e.g. EX-CEL Table) and then follow the wizard. Do not forget to select the proper settings in the wizard: 1) 'Character delimiting columns: Comma' (for default argument values). 2) 'Use the second column as layer information: Unchecked'. 3) 'Cover values: Percentage Values'.

To further import the header table you need to go to the menu File -> Import -> Header Data -> From Comma Delimited File.

In the header (see **Value**), the first column (Table number) corresponds to the plot number assigned by **Juice** at import, while the column (Releve number) is the number originally assigned to the plot (e.g. **Turboveg** ID).

#### Usage

```
write_juice(data, file, formula, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'vegtable, character, formula'
write_juice(
    data,
    file,
    formula,
    FUN,
    db_name = "Plot Observations",
    header,
    coords,
    sep = ",",
    ...
)

read_juice(file, encoding = "LATIN-1", sep = ";", na = "", ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

data An object of class vegtable.

file Character value indicating the name of output files (without file extension).

formula A formula passed to crosstable().

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... Further arguments. While write\_juice() passes them to the function crosstable(),

read\_juice() passes those arguments to readLines().

FUN Funtion passed to crosstable().

db\_name Name for data set displayed in inport wizard.

header Variables of header to be exported.

coords Names of coordinate variables in header of data.

sep Separator used to split rows into columns.

encoding Argument passed to readLines.

na Character used as not available values.

#### Value

For read\_juice(), a list with two elements: A data frame of species by plot (cross\_table), and a data frame with header data (header).

#### Author(s)

Miguel Alvarez <kamapu78@gmail.com>

```
## Only first 20 observations
Kenya_veg <- Kenya_veg[1:20,]
## Not run:
write_juice(Kenya_veg, "SWEA", FUN=mean)

## End(Not run)

## Installed 'Juice' version of 'Wetlands_veg'
Veg <- file.path(path.package("vegtable"), "juice", "Wetlands_juice.txt")
Veg <- read_juice(Veg)

summary(Veg)</pre>
```

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