Package 'rpostgis'

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Title R Interface to a 'PostGIS' Database

Description Provides additional functions to the
'RPostgreSQL' package to interface R with a 'PostGIS'-enabled
database, as well as convenient wrappers to common 'PostgreSQL'
queries.

SystemRequirements 'PostgreSQL' with 'PostGIS' extension

Depends R (>= 3.3.0),
RPostgreSQL,
DBI

Imports methods,
raster,
rgeos,
sp,
stats

Suggests rgdal,
wkb

License GPL (>= 3)

LazyData true

URL https://github.com/mablab/rpostgis

BugReports https://github.com/mablab/rpostgis/issues

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R topics documented:

dbAddKey 2
dbAsDate 3
dbColumn 4
dbComment 5
dbDrop 6
dbIndex 7
dbSchema 8
dbTableInfo 9
dbVacuum 9

pgGetBoundary 10
pgGetGeom 11
pgGetRast 12
pgInsert 13
pgListGeom 15
pgMakePts 16
pgPostGIS 17
pgSRID 18
rpostgis 19

Index **20**

`dbAddKey` *Add key.*

Description

Add a primary or foreign key to a table column.

Usage

```
dbAddKey(conn, name, colname, type = c("primary", "foreign"), reference,
  colref, display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

`conn`	A connection object.
`name`	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL table name.
`colname`	A character string specifying the name of the column to which the key will be assign.
`type`	The type of the key, either `primary` or `foreign`
`reference`	A character string specifying a foreign table name to which the foreign key will be associated.
`colref`	A character string specifying the name of the primary key in the foreign table to which the foreign key will be associated.
`display`	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to `TRUE`).
`exec`	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to `TRUE`).

Value

`TRUE` if the key was successfully added.

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille `<basille@ufl.edu>`

See Also

The PostgreSQL documentation: `http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/sql-altertable.html`

Examples

```
## examples use a dummy connection from DBI package
conn<-DBI::ANSI()
dbAddKey(conn, name = c("fla", "bli"), colname = "id", type = "foreign",
    reference = c("flu", "bla"), colref = "id", exec = FALSE)
```

---

dbAsDate *Converts to timestamp.*

Description

Convert a date field to a timestamp with or without time zone.

Usage

```
dbAsDate(conn, name, date = "date", tz = NULL, display = TRUE,
  exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object.
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL table name.
date	A character string specifying the date field.
tz	A character string specifying the time zone, in "EST", "America/New_York", "EST5EDT", "-5".
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to TRUE).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to TRUE).

Value

If exec = TRUE, returns TRUE if the conversion was successful.

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

See Also

The PostgreSQL documentation: http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/datatype-datetime.html

Examples

```
## Example uses a dummy connection from DBI package
conn <- DBI::ANSI()
dbAsDate(conn, name = c("schema", "table"), date = "date", tz = "GMT",
    exec = FALSE)
```

dbColumn *Add or remove a column.*

Description

Add or remove a column to/from a table.

Usage

```
dbColumn(conn, name, colname, action = c("add", "drop"),
  coltype = "integer", cascade = FALSE, display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object.
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL table name.
colname	A character string specifying the name of the column
action	A character string specifying if the column is to be added ("add", default) or removed ("drop").
coltype	A character string indicating the type of the column, if action = "add".
cascade	Logical. Whether to drop foreign key constraints of other tables, if action = "drop".
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to TRUE).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to TRUE).

Value

TRUE if the column was successfully added or removed.

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

See Also

The PostgreSQL documentation: http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/sql-altertable.html

Examples

```
## examples use a dummy connection from DBI package
conn<-DBI::ANSI()
## Add an integer column
dbColumn(conn, name = c("fla", "bli"), colname = "field", exec = FALSE)
## Drop a column (with CASCADE)
dbColumn(conn, name = c("fla", "bli"), colname = "field", action = "drop",
    cascade = TRUE, exec = FALSE)
```

dbComment *Comment table/view/schema.*

Description

Comment on a table, a view or a schema.

Usage

```
dbComment(conn, name, comment, type = c("table", "view", "schema"),
  display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object.
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL table, view or schema name.
comment	A character string specifying the comment.
type	The type of the object to comment, either table or view
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to TRUE).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to TRUE).

Value

TRUE if the comment was successfully applied.

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

See Also

The PostgreSQL documentation: http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/sql-comment.html

Examples

```
## examples use a dummy connection from DBI package
conn<-DBI::ANSI()
dbComment(conn, name = c("fla", "bli"), comment = "Comment on a view.",
    type = "view", exec = FALSE)
dbComment(conn, name = "fla", comment = "Comment on a schema.", type = "schema",
    exec = FALSE)
```

dbDrop *Drop table/view/schema.*

Description

Drop a table, a view or a schema.

Usage

```
dbDrop(conn, name, type = c("table", "view", "schema"), ifexists = FALSE,
  cascade = FALSE, display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object.
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL table, view or schema name.
type	The type of the object to comment, either table or view
ifexists	Do not throw an error if the table does not exist. A notice is issued in this case.
cascade	Automatically drop objects that depend on the table (such as views).
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to TRUE).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to TRUE).

Value

TRUE if the table/view/schema was successfully dropped.

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

See Also

The PostgreSQL documentation: http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/sql-droptable.html, http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/sql-dropview.html, http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/sql-dropschema.html

Examples

```
## examples use a dummy connection from DBI package
conn<-DBI::ANSI()
dbDrop(conn, name = c("fla", "bli"), type = "view", exec = FALSE)
dbDrop(conn, name = "fla", type = "schema", cascade = "TRUE", exec = FALSE)
```

dbIndex *Create an index.*

Description

Defines a new index on a PostgreSQL table.

Usage

```
dbIndex(conn, name, colname, idxname, unique = FALSE, method = c("btree",
  "hash", "rtree", "gist"), display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object.
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL table name.
colname	A character string specifying the name of the column to which the key will be associated.
idxname	A character string specifying the name of the index to be created. By default, this is the name of the table (without the schema) suffixed by _idx.
unique	Logical. Causes the system to check for duplicate values in the table when the index is created (if data already exist) and each time data is added. Attempts to insert or update data which would result in duplicate entries will generate an error.
method	The name of the method to be used for the index. Choices are "btree", "hash", "rtree", and "gist". The default method is "btree", although "gist" should be the index of choice for Post GIS spatial types (geometry, geography, raster).
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to TRUE).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to TRUE).

Value

TRUE if the index was successfully created.

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

See Also

The PostgreSQL documentation: http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/sql-createindex.html; the PostGIS documentation for GiST indexes: http://postgis.net/docs/using_postgis_dbmanagement.html#id541286

Examples

```
## examples use a dummy connection from DBI package
conn<-DBI::ANSI()
dbIndex(conn,name = c("fla", "bli"), colname = "geom", method = "gist",
    exec = FALSE)
```

dbSchema *Check and create schema.*

Description

Checks the existence, and if necessary, creates a schema.

Usage

```
dbSchema(conn, name, display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object (required, even if `exec = FALSE`).
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL schema name.
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to `TRUE`).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to `TRUE`). Note: if `exec = FALSE`, the function still checks the existence of the schema, but does not create it if it does not exists.

Value

`TRUE` if the schema exists (whether it was already available or was just created).

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

See Also

The PostgreSQL documentation: http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/sql-createschema.html

Examples

```
## Not run:
    dbSchema(name = "schema", exec = FALSE)

## End(Not run)
```

dbTableInfo *Get information about table columns.*

Description

Get information about columns in a PostgreSQL table.

Usage

```
dbTableInfo(conn, name, allinfo = FALSE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object to a PostgreSQL database.
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL schema (if necessary), and table or view name geometry (e.g., `name = c("schema", "table")`).
allinfo	Logical, Get all information on table? Default is column names, types, nullable, and maximum length of character columns.

Value

data frame

Author(s)

David Bucklin <dbucklin@ufl.edu>

Examples

```
## Not run:
dbTableInfo(conn, c("schema", "table"))

## End(Not run)
```

dbVacuum *Vacuum.*

Description

Performs a VACUUM (garbage-collect and optionally analyze) on a table.

Usage

```
dbVacuum(conn, name, full = FALSE, verbose = FALSE, analyze = TRUE,
  display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object.
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL table name.
full	Logical. Whether to perform a "full" vacuum, which can reclaim more space, but takes much longer and exclusively locks the table.
verbose	Logical. Whether to print a detailed vacuum activity report for each table.
analyze	Logical. Whether to update statistics used by the planner to determine the most efficient way to execute a query (default to TRUE).
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to TRUE).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to TRUE).

Value

TRUE if query is successfully executed.

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

See Also

The PostgreSQL documentation: http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/sql-vacuum.html

Examples

```
## examples use a dummy connection from DBI package
conn<-DBI::ANSI()
dbVacuum(conn, name = c("fla", "bli"), full = TRUE, exec = FALSE)
```

---

pgGetBoundary *Retrieve bounding envelope of geometries or rasters.*

Description

Retrieve bounding envelope (rectangle) of all geometries or rasters in a Postgresql table.

Usage

```
pgGetBoundary(conn, name, geom = "geom")
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object to a PostgreSQL database
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL schema (if necessary), and table or view name for the table holding the geometries/raster(s) (e.g., name = c("schema","table"))
geom	character, Name of the column in 'name' holding the geometry or raster object (Default = 'geom')

Value

SpatialPolygon

Author(s)

David Bucklin <dbucklin@ufl.edu>

Examples

```
## Not run:
pgGetBoundary(conn, c("schema", "polys"), geom = "polygon")
pgGetBoundary(conn, c("schema", "rasters"), geom = "rast")

## End(Not run)
```

---

pgGetGeom *Load a PostGIS geometry from a PostgreSQL table/view into R.*

Description

Retrieve point, linestring, or polygon geometries from a PostGIS table/view, and convert it to an R 'sp' object (Spatial* or Spatial*DataFrame).

Usage

```
pgGetGeom(conn, name, geom = "geom", gid = NULL, other.cols = TRUE,
  clauses = NULL)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object to a PostgreSQL database
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL schema and table/view name holding the geometry (e.g., 'name = c("schema","table")')
geom	The name of the geometry column. (Default = "geom")
gid	Name of the column in 'name' holding the IDs. Should be unique if additional columns of unique data are being appended. gid=NULL (default) automatically creates a new unique ID for each row in the 'sp' object.
other.cols	Names of specific columns in the table to retrieve, in a character vector (e.g. other.cols=c("col1","col2").) The default (other.cols = TRUE) is to attach all columns in a Spatial*DataFrame. Setting other.cols=FALSE will return a Spatial-only object (no data frame).
clauses	character, additional SQL to append to modify select query from table. Must begin with an SQL clause (e.g., "WHERE ...", "ORDER BY ...", "LIMIT ..."); see below for examples.

Value

sp-class (SpatialPoints*, SpatialMultiPoints*, SpatialLines*, or SpatialPolygons*)

Author(s)

David Bucklin <dbucklin@ufl.edu>

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

Examples

```
## Not run:
## Retrieve a Spatial*DataFrame with all data from table
## 'schema.tablename', with geometry in the column 'geom'
pgGetGeom(conn, c("schema", "tablename"))
## Return a Spatial*DataFrame with columns c1 & c2 as data
pgGetGeom(conn, c("schema", "tablename"), other.cols = c("c1","c2"))
## Return a Spatial*-only (no data frame),
## retaining id from table as rownames
pgGetGeom(conn, c("schema", "tablename"), gid = "table_id",
  other.cols = FALSE)
## Return a Spatial*-only (no data frame),
## retaining id from table as rownames and with a subset of the data
pgGetGeom(conn, c("schema", "roads"), geom = "roadgeom", gid = "road_ID",
    other.cols = FALSE, clauses  = "WHERE field = 'highway'")

## End(Not run)
```

---

pgGetRast *Load raster from PostGIS database.*

Description

Retrieve rasters from a PostGIS table.

Usage

```
pgGetRast(conn, name, rast = "rast", digits = 9, boundary = NULL)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object to a PostgreSQL database
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL schema (if necessary), and table or view name for the table holding the raster (e.g., name = c("schema","table"))
rast	Name of the column in 'name' holding the raster object
digits	numeric, precision for detecting whether points are on a regular grid (a low number of digits is a low precision) - From rasterFromXYZ function (raster package)
boundary	sp object or numeric. A Spatial* object, whose bounding box will be used to select the part of the raster to import. Alternatively, four numbers (e.g. c(north, south, east, west)) indicating the projection-specific limits with which to clip the raster. NULL (default) will return the full raster.

Value

RasterLayer

Author(s)

David Bucklin <dbucklin@ufl.edu>

Examples

```
## Not run:
pgGetRast(conn, c("schema", "tablename"))
pgGetRast(conn, c("schema", "DEM"), digits = 9, boundary = c(55,
    50, 17, 12))

## End(Not run)
```

---

pgInsert *Inserts data into a PostgreSQL table.*

Description

This function takes a take an R sp object (Spatial* or Spatial*DataFrame), or a regular data frame, and performs the database insert (and table creation, when the table doesn't exist) on the database.

Usage

```
pgInsert(conn, name, data.obj, geom = "geom", partial.match = FALSE,
  overwrite = FALSE, new.id = NULL, upsert.using = NULL,
  alter.names = TRUE, encoding = NULL, return.pgi = FALSE)

## S3 method for class 'pgi'
print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object to a PostgreSQL database
name	Character, schema and table of the PostgreSQL table to insert into. If not already existing, the table will be created. If the table already exists, the function will check if all R data frame columns match database columns, and if so, do the insert. If not, the insert will be aborted. The argument partial.match allows for inserts with only partial matches of data frame and database column names, and overwrite allows for overwriting the existing database table.
data.obj	A Spatial* or Spatial*DataFrame, or data frame
geom	character string. For Spatial* datasets, the name of geometry column in the database table. (existing or to be created; defaults to "geom").
partial.match	Logical; allow insert on partial column matches between data frame and database table. If TRUE, columns in R data frame will be compared with the existing database table name. Columns in the data frame that exactly match the database table will be inserted into the database table.
overwrite	Logical; if true, a new table (name) will overwrite the existing table (name) in the database.

new.id	Character, name of a new sequential integer ID column to be added to the table for insert (for spatial objects without data frames, this column is created even if left NULL and defaults to the name "gid"). If partial.match = TRUE and the column does not exist in the databse table, it will be discarded.
upsert.using	Character, name of the column(s) in the database table or constraint name used to identify already-existing rows in the table, which will be updated rather than inserted. The column(s) must have a unique constraint already created in the database table (e.g., a primary key). Requires PostgreSQL 9.5+.
alter.names	Logical, whether to make database column names DB-compliant (remove special characters). Default is TRUE. (This should to be set to FALSE to match to non-standard names in an existing database table.)
encoding	Character vector of length 2, containing the from/to encodings for the data (as in the function iconv). For example, if the dataset contain certain latin characters (e.g., accent marks), and the database is in UTF-8, use encoding = c("latin1", "UTF-8"). Left NULL, no conversion will be done.
return.pgi	Whether to return a formatted list of insert parameters (i.e., a pgi object; see function details.)
x	A list of class pgi
...	Further arguments not used.

Details

If new.id is specified, a new sequential integer field is added to the data frame for insert. For Spatial*-only objects (no data frame), a new.id is created by default with name "gid".

If the R package wkb is installed, this function will use writeWKB for certain datasets (non-Multi types, non-Linestring), which is faster for large datasets. In all other cases the rgeos function writeWKT is used.

In the event of function or database error, the database uses ROLLBACK to revert to the previous state.

If the user specifies return.pgi = TRUE, and data preparation is successful, the function will return a pgi object (see next paragraph), regardless of whether the insert was successful or not. This object can be useful for debugging, or re-used as the data.obj in pgInsert; (e.g., when data preparation is slow, and the exact same data needs to be inserted into tables in two separate tables or databases).If return.pgi = FALSE (default), the function will return TRUE for successful insert and FALSE for failed inserts.

pgi objects are a list containing four character strings: (1) in.table, the table name which will be created or inserted into (2) db.new.table, the SQL statement to create the new table, (3) db.cols.insert, a character string of the database column names to insert into, and (4) insert.data, a character string of the data to insert.

Value

Returns TRUE if the insertion was successful, FALSE if failed, or a pgi object if specified.

Author(s)

David Bucklin <dbucklin@ufl.edu>

Examples

```
## Not run:
library(sp)
data(meuse)
coords <- SpatialPoints(meuse[, c("x", "y")])
spdf <- SpatialPointsDataFrame(coords, meuse)

## Insert data in new database table
pgInsert(conn, name = c("public", "meuse_data"), data.obj = spdf)

## The same command will insert into already created table (if all R
## columns match)
pgInsert(conn, name = c("public", "meuse_data"), data.obj = spdf)

## If not all database columns match, need to use partial.match = TRUE,
## where non-matching columns are not inserted
colnames(spdf@data)[4] <- "cu"
pgInsert(conn, name = c("public", "meuse_data"), data.obj = spdf,
    partial.match = TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

---

pgListGeom *List geometries.*

Description

List all geometries in a PostGIS database.

Usage

```
pgListGeom(conn, display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A PostgreSQL database connection.
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to TRUE).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to TRUE).

Value

If `exec = TRUE`, a data frame with schema, table, geometry column, and geometry type.

Author(s)

David Bucklin <dbucklin@ufl.edu>

Examples

```
## Not run:
pgListGeom(conn)

## End(Not run)
```

pgMakePts *Add a POINT or LINESTRING geometry field.*

Description

Add a new POINT or LINESTRING geometry field.

Usage

```
pgMakePts(conn, name, colname = "geom", x = "x", y = "y", srid,
  index = TRUE, display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)

pgMakeStp(conn, name, colname = "geom", x = "x", y = "y", dx = "dx",
  dy = "dy", srid, index = TRUE, display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object.
name	A character string specifying a PostgreSQL table name.
colname	A character string specifying the name of the new geometry column.
x	The name of the x/longitude field.
y	The name of the y/latitude field.
srid	A valid SRID for the new geometry.
index	Logical. Whether to create an index on the new geometry.
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to TRUE).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to TRUE).
dx	The name of the dx field (i.e. increment in x direction).
dy	The name of the dy field (i.e. increment in y direction).

Value

If exec = TRUE, returns TRUE if the geometry field was successfully created.

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

See Also

The PostGIS documentation for ST_MakePoint: http://postgis.net/docs/ST_MakePoint.html, and for ST_MakeLine: http://postgis.net/docs/ST_MakeLine.html, which are the main functions of the call.

Examples

```
## Examples use a dummy connection from DBI package
conn <- DBI::ANSI()

## Create a new POINT field called 'pts_geom'
pgMakePts(conn, name = c("schema", "table"), colname = "pts_geom",
    x = "longitude", y = "latitude", srid = 4326, exec = FALSE)

## Create a new LINESTRING field called 'stp_geom'
pgMakeStp(conn, name = c("schema", "table"), colname = "stp_geom",
    x = "longitude", y = "latitude", dx = "xdiff", dy = "ydiff",
    srid = 4326, exec = FALSE)
```

---

pgPostGIS *Check and create PostGIS extension.*

Description

The function checks for the availability of the PostGIS extension, and if it is available, but not installed, install it. Additionnaly, can also install Topology, Tiger Geocoder and SFCGAL extensions.

Usage

```
pgPostGIS(conn, topology = FALSE, tiger = FALSE, sfcgal = FALSE,
  display = TRUE, exec = TRUE)
```

Arguments

conn	A connection object (required, even if exec = FALSE).
topology	Logical. Whether to check/install the Topology extension.
tiger	Logical. Whether to check/install the Tiger Geocoder extension. Will also install extensions "fuzzystrmatch", "address_standardizer", and "address_standardizer_data_us" if all are available.
sfcgal	Logical. Whether to check/install the SFCGAL extension.
display	Logical. Whether to display the query (defaults to TRUE).
exec	Logical. Whether to execute the query (defaults to TRUE).

Value

TRUE if PostGIS is installed.

Author(s)

Mathieu Basille <basille@ufl.edu>

Examples

```
## 'exec = FALSE' does not install any extension, but nevertheless
## check for available and installed extensions:
## Not run:
    pgPostGIS(con, topology = TRUE, tiger = TRUE, sfcgal = TRUE,
        exec = FALSE)

## End(Not run)
```

---

pgSRID *Find (or create) PostGIS SRID based on CRS object.*

Description

This function takes CRS-class object and a PostgreSQL database connection (with PostGIS extension), and returns the matching SRID(s) for that CRS. If a match is not found, a new entry can be created in the PostgreSQL `spatial_ref_sys` table using the parameters specified by the CRS. New entries will be created with `auth_name = 'rpostgis_custom'`, with the default value being the next open value between 880001-889999 (a different SRID value can be entered if desired.)

Usage

```
pgSRID(conn, crs, create.srid = FALSE, new.srid = NULL)
```

Arguments

`conn`	A connection object to a PostgreSQL database.
`crs`	CRS object, created through a call to CRS.
`create.srid`	Logical. If no matching SRID is found, should a new SRID be created? User must have write access on `spatial_ref_sys` table.
`new.srid`	Integer. Optional SRID to give to a newly created SRID. If left NULL (default), the next open value of `srid` in `spatial_ref_sys` between 880001 and 889999 will be used.

Value

SRID code (integer).

Author(s)

David Bucklin <dbucklin@ufl.edu>

Examples

```
## Not run:
drv <- dbDriver("PostgreSQL")
conn <- dbConnect(drv, dbname = "dbname", host = "host", port = "5432",
    user = "user", password = "password")
(crs <- CRS("+proj=longlat"))
pgSRID(conn, crs)
(crs2 <- CRS(paste("+proj=stere", "+lat_0=52.15616055555555 +lon_0=5.38763888888889",
    "+k=0.999908 +x_0=155000 +y_0=463000", "+ellps=bessel",
```

```
    "+towgs84=565.237,50.0087,465.658,-0.406857,0.350733,-1.87035,4.0812",
    "+units=m")))
pgSRID(conn, crs2, create.srid = TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

`rpostgis` *R interface to a PostGIS database.*

Description

This package provides additional functions to the `RPostgreSQL` package to interface R with a PostGIS-enabled database, as well as convenient wrappers to common PostgreSQL queries. For a list of documented functions, use `library(help = "rpostgis")`.

Details

A typical session starts by establishing the connection to a working PostgreSQL database:

library(rpostgis) con <- dbConnect("PostgreSQL", dbname = <dbname>, host = <host>, user = <user>, password = <password>)

For example, this could be:

con <- dbConnect("PostgreSQL", dbname = "rpostgis", host = "localhost", user = "postgres", password = "postgres")

The next step typically involves checking if PostGIS was installed on the working database, and if not try to install it:

pgPostGIS(con)

The function should return `TRUE` for all `pg-` functions to work.

Finally, at the end of an interactive session, the connection to the database should be closed:

dbDisconnect(con)

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Index

CRS, *18*

dbAddKey, 2
dbAsDate, 3
dbColumn, 4
dbComment, 5
dbDrop, 6
dbIndex, 7
dbSchema, 8
dbTableInfo, 9
dbVacuum, 9

pgGetBoundary, 10
pgGetGeom, 11
pgGetRast, 12
pgInsert, 13
pgListGeom, 15
pgMakePts, 16
pgMakeStp *(*pgMakePts*)*, 16
pgPostGIS, 17
pgSRID, 18
print.pgi *(*pgInsert*)*, 13

rpostgis, 19
rpostgis-package *(*rpostgis*)*, 19