Package ‘mpathsenser’

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Title Process and Analyse Data from m-Path Sense

Version 1.1.2

Description Overcomes one of the major challenges in mobile (passive) sensing, namely being able to pre-process the raw data that comes from a mobile sensing app, specifically ``m-Path Sense” <https://m-path.io>. The main task of `mpathsenser` is therefore to read ``m-Path Sense’’ JSON files into a database and provide several convenience functions to aid in data processing.

License GPL (>= 3)


BugReports https://gitlab.kuleuven.be/ppw-okpiv/researchers/u0134047/mpathsenser/-/issues/

Depends R (>= 4.0.0)

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Author Koen Niemeijer [aut, cre] (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0816-534X>), Kristof Meers [ctb] (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9610-7712>), KU Leuven [cph, fnd]

Maintainer Koen Niemeijer <koen.niemeijer@kuleuven.be>

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R topics documented:

add_gaps .......................................................... 2
app_category ...................................................... 4
bin_data .......................................................... 6
ccopy ............................................................ 8
close_db .......................................................... 9
copy_db .......................................................... 9
coverage ......................................................... 10
create_db ......................................................... 12
decrypt_gps ..................................................... 12
device_info ....................................................... 13
first_date ........................................................ 14
fix_jsons .......................................................... 15
freq ............................................................... 16
geocode_rev ...................................................... 17
get_data .......................................................... 18
get_nrows ......................................................... 19
get_participants ................................................ 20
get_processed_files .......................................... 20
get_studies ....................................................... 21
haversine ......................................................... 21
identify_gaps ..................................................... 22
import .......................................................... 24
index_db ........................................................ 25
installed_apps .................................................. 26
last_date .......................................................... 26
link ............................................................... 27
link_db .......................................................... 31
link_gaps ........................................................ 33
moving_average ................................................ 34
open_db .......................................................... 35
plot.coverage .................................................... 36
sensors .......................................................... 36
test_jsons ........................................................ 37
unzip_data ....................................................... 38

Index  40

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add_gaps  Add gap periods to sensor data
Description

[Stable]
Since there may be many gaps in mobile sensing data, it is pivotal to pay attention to them in the analysis. This function adds known gaps to data as "measurements", thereby allowing easier calculations for, for example, finding the duration. For instance, consider a participant spent 30 minutes walking. However, if it is known there is gap of 15 minutes in this interval, we should somehow account for it. add_gaps accounts for this by adding the gap data to sensors data by splitting intervals where gaps occur.

Usage

add_gaps(data, gaps, by = NULL, continue = FALSE, fill = NULL)

Arguments

data
A data frame containing the data. See get_data() for retrieving data from an mpathsenser database.
gaps
A data frame (extension) containing the gap data. See identify_gaps() for retrieving gap data from an mpathsenser database. It should at least contain the columns from and to (both in a date-time format), as well as any specified columns in by.
by
A character vector indicating the variable(s) to match by, typically the participant IDs. If NULL, the default, *_join() will perform a natural join, using all variables in common across x and y'.
continue
Whether to continue the measurement(s) prior to the gap once the gap ends.
fill
A named list of the columns to fill with default values for the extra measurements that are added because of the gaps.

Details

In the example of 30 minutes walking where a 15 minute gap occurred (say after 5 minutes), add_gaps() adds two rows: one after 5 minutes of the start of the interval indicating the start of the gap(if needed containing values from fill), and one after 20 minutes of the start of the interval signalling the walking activity. Then, when calculating time differences between subsequent measurements, the gap period is appropriately accounted for. Note that if multiple measurements occurred before the gap, they will both be continued after the gap.

Value

A tibble containing the data and the added gaps.

Warning

Depending on the sensor that is used to identify the gaps (though this is typically the highest frequency sensor, such as the accelerometer or gyroscope), there may be a small delay between the start of the gap and the actual start of the gap. For example, if the accelerometer samples every 5 seconds, it may be after 4.99 seconds after the last accelerometer measurement (so just before the
next measurement), the app was killed. However, within that time other measurements may still have taken place, thereby technically occurring "within" the gap. This is especially important if you want to use these gaps in `add_gaps` since this issue may lead to erroneous results.

An easy way to solve this problem is by taking into account all the sensors of interest when identifying the gaps, thereby ensuring there are no measurements of these sensors within the gap. One way to account for this is to (as in this example) search for gaps 5 seconds longer than you want and then afterwards increasing the start time of the gaps by 5 seconds.

See Also

`identify_gaps()` for finding gaps in the sampling; `link_gaps()` for linking gaps to ESM data, analogous to `link()`.

Examples

```r
# Define some data
dat <- data.frame(
  participant_id = "12345",
  time = as.POSIXct(c("2022-05-10 10:00:00", "2022-05-10 10:30:00", "2022-05-10 11:30:00")),
  type = c("WALKING", "STILL", "RUNNING"),
  confidence = c(80, 100, 20)
)

# Get the gaps from identify_gaps, but in this example define them ourselves
gaps <- data.frame(
  participant_id = "12345",
  from = as.POSIXct(c("2022-05-10 10:05:00", "2022-05-10 10:50:00")),
  to = as.POSIXct(c("2022-05-10 10:20:00", "2022-05-10 11:10:00"))
)

# Now add the gaps to the data
add_gaps(
  data = dat,
  gaps = gaps,
  by = "participant_id"
)

# You can use fill if you want to get rid of those pesky NA's
add_gaps(
  data = dat,
  gaps = gaps,
  by = "participant_id",
  fill = list(type = "GAP", confidence = 100)
)
```

---

**app_category**

Find the category of an app on the Google Play Store
Description

[Stable]
This function scrapes the Google Play Store by using name as the search term. From there it selects the first result in the list and its corresponding category and package name.

Usage

app_category(name, num = 1, rate_limit = 5, exact = TRUE)

Arguments

name
The name of the app to search for.

num
Which result should be selected in the list of search results. Defaults to one.

rate_limit
The time interval to keep between queries, in seconds. If the rate limit is too low, the Google Play Store may reject further requests or even ban your entirely.

exact
In m-Path Sense, the app names of the AppUsage sensor are the last part of the app’s package names. When exact is TRUE, the function guarantees that name is exactly equal to the last part of the selected package from the search results. Note that when exact is TRUE, it interacts with num in the sense that it no longer selects the top search result but instead the top search result that matches the last part of the package name.

Value

A list containing the following fields:

    package the package name that was selected from the Google Play search
    genre the corresponding genre of this package

Warning

Do not abuse this function or you will be banned by the Google Play Store. The minimum delay between requests seems to be around 5 seconds, but this is untested. Also make sure not to do batch lookups, as many subsequent requests will get you blocked as well.

Examples

app_category("whatsapp")

# Example of a generic app name where we can't find a specific app
app_category("weather") # Weather forecast channel

# Get OnePlus weather
app_category("net.oneplus.weather")
bin_data

Create bins in variable time series

Description

[Experimental]
In time series with variable measurements, an often recurring task is calculating the total time spent (i.e. the duration) in fixed bins, for example per hour or day. However, this may be difficult when two subsequent measurements are in different bins or span over multiple bins.

Usage

```r
bin_data(
  data,  # A data frame or tibble containing the time series.
  start_time,  # The column name of the start time of the interval, a POSIXt.
  end_time,  # The column name of the end time of the interval, a POSIXt.
  by = c("sec", "min", "hour", "day"),  # A binning specification.
  fixed = TRUE  # Whether to create fixed bins. If TRUE, bins will be rounded to, for example, whole hours or days (depending on by). If FALSE, bins will be created based on the first timestamp.
)
```

Arguments

- `data`: A data frame or tibble containing the time series.
- `start_time`: The column name of the start time of the interval, a POSIXt.
- `end_time`: The column name of the end time of the interval, a POSIXt.
- `by`: A binning specification.
- `fixed`: Whether to create fixed bins. If TRUE, bins will be rounded to, for example, whole hours or days (depending on by). If FALSE, bins will be created based on the first timestamp.

Value

A tibble containing the group columns (if any), date, hour (if `by = "hour"`), and the duration in seconds.

See Also

`link_gaps()` for linking gaps to data.

Examples

```r
data <- tibble::tibble(
  participant_id = 1,
  datetime = c(
    "2022-06-21 15:00:00", "2022-06-21 15:55:00",
    "2022-06-21 17:05:00", "2022-06-21 17:10:00"
  ),
)
# get bins per hour, even if the interval is longer than one hour

data %>%
dplyr::mutate(datetime = as.POSIXct(datetime)) %>%
dplyr::mutate(lead = dplyr::lead(datetime)) %>%
bin_data(
  start_time = datetime,
  end_time = lead,
  by = "hour"
)

# Alternatively, you can give an integer value to by to create custom-sized bins, but only if fixed = FALSE. Not that these bins are not rounded to, as in this example 30 minutes, but rather depends on the earliest time in the group.

data %>%
dplyr::mutate(datetime = as.POSIXct(datetime)) %>%
dplyr::mutate(lead = dplyr::lead(datetime)) %>%
bin_data(
  start_time = datetime,
  end_time = lead,
  by = 1800L,
  fixed = FALSE
)

# More complicated data for showcasing grouping:

data <- tibble::tibble(
  participant_id = 1,
  datetime = c("2022-06-21 15:00:00", "2022-06-21 15:55:00",
               "2022-06-21 17:05:00", "2022-06-21 17:10:00"),
  confidence = 100,
  type = c("STILL", "WALKING", "STILL", "WALKING")
)

# binned_intervals also takes into account the prior grouping structure

data <- data %>%
dplyr::mutate(datetime = as.POSIXct(datetime)) %>%
dplyr::group_by(participant_id) %>%
dplyr::mutate(lead = dplyr::lead(datetime)) %>%
dplyr::group_by(participant_id, type) %>%
bin_data(
  start_time = datetime,
  end_time = lead,
  by = "hour"
)

print(out)

# To get the duration for each bin (note to change the variable names in sum):
purrr::map_dbl(
  out$bin_data,
  sum(as.double(.x$lead) - as.double(.x$datetime),
    na.rm = TRUE
  )
)

# Or:
out %>%
tidyr::unnest(bin_data, keep_empty = TRUE) %>%
dplyr::mutate(duration = .data$lead - .data$datetime) %>%
dplyr::group_by(bin, .add = TRUE) %>%
dplyr::summarise(duration = sum(.data$duration, na.rm = TRUE), .groups = "drop")

ccopy  Copy mpathsenser zip files to a new location

Description

[Stable]
Copy zip files from a source destination to an origin destination where they do not yet exist. That is, it only updates the target folder from the source folder.

Usage

ccopy(from, to, recursive = TRUE)

Arguments

from A path to copy files from.
to A path to copy files to.
recursive Should files from subdirectories be copied?

Value

A message indicating how many files were copied.

Examples

## Not run:
ccopy("K:/data/myproject/", "~/myproject")

## End(Not run)
close_db

Close a database connection

Description
[Stable]
This is a convenience function that is simply a wrapper around DBI::dbDisconnect().

Usage

close_db(db)

Arguments

db A database connection to an m-Path Sense database.

Value
Returns invisibly regardless of whether the database is active, valid, or even exists.

See Also
open_db() for opening an mpathsenser database.

----------
copy_db

Copy (a subset of) a database to another database

Description
[Stable]

Usage

copy_db(
    source_db,
    target_db,
    sensor = "All",
    path = deprecated(),
    db_name = deprecated()
)
coverage

Arguments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>source_db</td>
<td>A mpathsenser database connection from where the data will be transferred. create_db() to create a new database.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>target_db</td>
<td>A mpathsenser database connection where the data will be transferred to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sensor</td>
<td>A character vector containing one or multiple sensors. See sensors for a list of available sensors. Use &quot;All&quot; for all available sensors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>path</td>
<td>[Deprecated]: This argument was used when database creation in copy_db() was still supported. As this functionality is deprecated, overwrite_db is now ignored and will be removed in future versions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>db_name</td>
<td>[Deprecated]: Creating new databases on the fly has been deprecated as it is better to separate the two functions. You must now create a new database using create_db() or reuse an existing one.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Value

No return value, called for side effects.

coverage 

Create a coverage chart of the sampling rate

Description

[Stable]
Only applicable to non-reactive sensors with 'continuous' sampling

Usage

coverage(
  db,
  participant_id,
  sensor = NULL,
  frequency = mpathsenser::freq,
  relative = TRUE,
  offset = "None",
  start_date = NULL,
  end_date = NULL,
  plot = deprecated()
)

Arguments

db A valid database connection. Schema must be that as it is created by open_db.
participant_id A character string of one participant ID.
sensor A character vector containing one or multiple sensors. See sensors for a list of available sensors. Use NULL for all available sensors.
coverage

frequency: A named numeric vector with sensors as names and the number of expected samples per hour.

relative: Show absolute number of measurements or relative to the expected number? Logical value.

offset: Currently not used.

start_date: A date (or convertible to a date using `base::as.Date()`) indicating the earliest date to show. Leave empty for all data. Must be used with end_date.

date: A date (or convertible to a date using `base::as.Date()`) indicating the latest date to show. Leave empty for all data. Must be used with start_date.

plot: [Deprecated] Instead of built-in functionality, use `plot.coverage()` to plot the output.

Value

A ggplot of the coverage results if plot is TRUE or a tibble containing the hour, type of measure (i.e. sensor), and (relative) coverage.

Examples

```r
## Not run:
fix_json()
unzip()
freq <- c(
  Accelerometer = 720, # Once per 5 seconds. Can have multiple measurements.
  AirQuality = 1,
  AppUsage = 2, # Once every 30 minutes
  Bluetooth = 60, # Once per minute. Can have multiple measurements.
  Gyroscope = 720, # Once per 5 seconds. Can have multiple measurements.
  Light = 360, # Once per 10 seconds
  Location = 60, # Once per 60 seconds
  Memory = 60, # Once per minute
  Noise = 120,
  Pedometer = 1,
  Weather = 1,
  Wifi = 60 # once per minute
)
coverage(
  db = db,
  participant_id = "12345",
  sensor = c("Accelerometer", "Gyroscope"),
  frequency = mpathsenser::freq,
  start_date = "2021-01-01",
  end_date = "2021-05-01"
)
```

## End(Not run)
create_db

Create a new mpathsenser database

Description

[Stable]

Usage

create_db(path = getwd(), db_name = "sense.db", overwrite = FALSE)

Arguments

path The path to the database.
db_name The name of the database.
overwrite In case a database with db_name already exists, indicate whether it should be overwritten or not. Otherwise, this option is ignored.

Value

A database connection using prepared database schemas.

decrypt_gps

Decrypt GPS data from a curve25519 public key

Description

[Stable]

By default, the latitude and longitude of the GPS data collected by m-Path Sense are encrypted using an asymmetric curve25519 key to provide extra protection for these highly sensitive data. This function takes a character vector and decrypts its longitude and latitude columns using the provided key.

Usage

decrypt_gps(data, key, ignore = ":")

Arguments

data A character vector containing hexadecimal (i.e. encrypted) data.
key A curve25519 private key.
ignore A string with characters to ignore from data. See sodium::hex2bin().
**device_info**

**Value**

A vector of doubles of the decrypted GPS coordinates.

**Parallel**

This function supports parallel processing in the sense that it is able to distribute its computation load among multiple workers. To make use of this functionality, run `future::plan("multisession")` before calling this function.

**Examples**

```r
library(dplyr)
library(sodium)

# Create some GPS coordinates.
data <- data.frame(
  participant_id = "12345",
  time = as.POSIXct(c("2022-12-02 12:00:00",
                     "2022-12-02 12:00:01",
                     "2022-12-02 12:00:02")),
  longitude = c("50.12345", "50.23456", "50.34567"),
  latitude = c("4.12345", "4.23456", "4.345678")
)

# Generate keypair
key <- sodium::keygen()
pub <- sodium::pubkey(key)

# Encrypt coordinates with pubkey
# You do not need to do this for m-Path Sense
# as this is already encrypted
encrypt <- function(data, pub) {
  data <- lapply(data, charToRaw)
  data <- lapply(data, function(x) sodium::simple_encrypt(x, pub))
  data <- lapply(data, sodium::bin2hex)
  data <- unlist(data)
  data
}
data$longitude <- encrypt(data$longitude, pub)
data$latitude <- encrypt(data$latitude, pub)

# Once the data has been collected, decrypt it using decrypt_gps().
data %>%
  mutate(longitude = decrypt_gps(longitude, key)) %>%
  mutate(latitude = decrypt_gps(latitude, key))
```

---

**device_info**  
*Get the device info for one or more participants*
Description

[Stable]

Usage

device_info(db, participant_id = NULL)

Arguments

db A database connection to an m-Path Sense database.
participant_id A character string identifying a single participant. Use get_participants to retrieve all participants from the database. Leave empty to get data for all participants.

Value

A tibble containing device info for each participant

first_date

Extract the date of the first entry

Description

[Stable]

A helper function for extracting the first date of entry of (of one or all participant) of one sensor. Note that this function is specific to the first date of a sensor. After all, it wouldn’t make sense to extract the first date for a participant of the accelerometer, while the first device measurement occurred a day later.

Usage

first_date(db, sensor, participant_id = NULL)

Arguments

db A database connection to an m-Path Sense database.
sensor The name of a sensor. See sensors for a list of available sensors.
participant_id A character string identifying a single participant. Use get_participants to retrieve all participants from the database. Leave empty to get data for all participants.

Value

A string in the format ‘YYYY-mm-dd’ of the first entry date.
Examples

```r
## Not run:
db <- open_db()
first_date(db, "Accelerometer", "12345")

## End(Not run)
```

fix_jsons

Fix the end of JSON files

Description

[Experimental]

When copying data directly coming from m-Path Sense, JSON files are sometimes corrupted due to the app not properly closing them. This function attempts to fix the most common problems associated with improper file closure by m-Path Sense.

Usage

```r
fix_jsons(
  path = getwd(),
  files = NULL,
  recursive = TRUE,
  parallel = deprecated()
)
```

Arguments

- `path` The path name of the JSON files.
- `files` Alternatively, a character list of the input files
- `recursive` Should the listing recurse into directories?
- `parallel` A logical value whether you want to check in parallel. Useful for a lot of files.

Details

There are two distinct problems this function tries to tackle. First of all, there are often bad file endings (e.g. `[]`) because the app was closed before it could properly close the file. There are several cases that may be wrong (or even multiple), so it unclear what the precise problems are. As this function is experimental, it may even make it worse by accidentally inserting an incorrect file ending.

Secondly, in rare scenarios there are illegal ASCII characters in the JSON files. Not often does this happen, and it is likely because of an OS failure (such as a flush error), a disk failure, or corrupted files...
data during transmit. Nevertheless, these illegal characters make the file completely unreadable. Fortunately, they are detected correctly by test_jsons, but they cannot be imported by import. This functions attempts to surgically remove lines with illegal characters, by removing that specific line as well as the next line, as this is often a comma. It may therefore be too liberal in its approach – cutting away more data than necessary – or not liberal enough when the corruption has spread throughout multiple lines. Nevertheless, it is a first step in removing some straightforward corruption from files so that only a small number may still need to be fixed by hand.

**Value**

A message indicating how many files were fixed.

**Parallel**

This function supports parallel processing in the sense that it is able to distribute it’s computation load among multiple workers. To make use of this functionality, run `future::plan("multisession")` before calling this function.

**Progress**

You can be updated of the progress of this function by using the `progressr::progress()` package. See `progressr`’s vignette on how to subscribe to these updates.

**Examples**

```r
## Not run:
future::plan("multisession")
files <- test_jsons()
fix_jsons(files = files)
## End(Not run)
```

---

**freq**

*Measurement frequencies per sensor*

**Description**

A numeric vector containing (an example) of example measurement frequencies per sensor. Such input is needed for `coverage()`.

**Usage**

`freq`

**Format**

An object of class numeric of length 11.
**Value**

This vector contains the following information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sensor</th>
<th>Frequency (per hour)</th>
<th>Full text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accelerometer</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>Once per 5 seconds. Can have multiple instances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AirQuality</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Once per hour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AppUsage</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Once every 30 minutes. Can have multiple instances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluetooth</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Once every 5 minutes. Can have multiple instances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gyroscope</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>Once per 5 seconds. Can have multiple instances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>Once per 10 seconds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Once every 60 seconds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Once per minute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>Once every 30 seconds. Microphone cannot be used in the background in Android 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Once per hour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wifi</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Once per minute</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**geocode_rev**

Reverse geocoding with latitude and longitude

**Description**

[Experimental]

This function allows you to extract information about a place based on the latitude and longitude from the OpenStreetMaps nominatim API.

**Usage**

geocode_rev(lat, lon, zoom = 18, email = "", rate_limit = 1)

**Arguments**

- **lat**
  - The latitude of the location (in degrees)
- **lon**
  - The longitude of the location (in degrees)
- **zoom**
  - The desired zoom level from 1-18. The lowest level, 18, is building level.
- **email**
  - If you are making large numbers of request please include an appropriate email address to identify your requests. See Nominatim’s Usage Policy for more details.
- **rate_limit**
  - The time interval to keep between queries, in seconds. If the rate limit is too low, OpenStreetMaps may reject further requests or even ban your entirely.

**Value**

A list of information about the location. See Nominatim’s documentation for more details.
Warning

Do not abuse this function or you will be banned by OpenStreetMap. The maximum number of requests is around 1 per second. Also make sure not to do too many batch lookups, as many subsequent requests will get you blocked as well.

Examples

```r
# Frankfurt Airport
geocode_rev(50.037936, 8.5599631)
```

get_data

Extract data from an m-Path Sense database

Description

[Stable]

This is a convenience function to help extract data from an m-Path sense database. For some sensors that require a bit more pre-processing, such as app usage and screen time, more specialised functions are available (e.g. `app_usage` and `screen_duration`).

Usage

```r
get_data(db, sensor, participant_id = NULL, start_date = NULL, end_date = NULL)
```

Arguments

- `db` A database connection to an m-Path Sense database.
- `sensor` The name of a sensor. See `sensors` for a list of available sensors.
- `participant_id` A character string identifying a single participant. Use `get_participants` to retrieve all participants from the database. Leave empty to get data for all participants.
- `start_date` Optional search window specifying date where to begin search. Must be convertible to date using `as.Date`. Use `first_date` to find the date of the first entry for a participant.
- `end_date` Optional search window specifying date where to end search. Must be convertible to date using `as.Date`. Use `last_date` to find the date of the last entry for a participant.

Value

A lazy `tbl` containing the requested data.
Examples

```r
## Not run:
# Open a database
db <- open_db()

# Retrieve some data
get_data(db, "Accelerometer", "12345")

# Or within a specific window
get_data(db, "Accelerometer", "12345", "2021-01-01", "2021-01-05")

## End(Not run)
```

**get_nrows**

*Get the number of rows per sensor in a mpathsenser database*

Description

[Stable]

Usage

```r
get_nrows(
  db,
  sensor = "All",
  participant_id = NULL,
  start_date = NULL,
  end_date = NULL
)
```

Arguments

- **db** A database connection, as created by `create_db()`.
- **sensor** A character vector of one or multiple vectors. Use `sensor = "All"` for all sensors. See `sensors` for a list of all available sensors.
- **participant_id** A character string identifying a single participant. Use `get_participants()` to retrieve all participants from the database. Leave empty to get data for all participants.
- **start_date** Optional search window specifying date where to begin search. Must be convertible to date using `base::as.Date()`. Use `first_date()` to find the date of the first entry for a participant.
- **end_date** Optional search window specifying date where to end search. Must be convertible to date using `base::as.Date()`. Use `last_date()` to find the date of the last entry for a participant.

Value

A named vector containing the number of rows for each sensor.
get_participants  Get all participants  

Description

[Stable]

Usage

get_participants(db, lazy = FALSE)

Arguments

db  
A database connection, as created by `create_db()`.

lazy  
Whether to evaluate lazily using `dbplyr`.

Value

A data frame containing all `participant_id` and `study_id`.

get_processed_files  Get all processed files from a database  

Description

[Stable]

Usage

get_processed_files(db)

Arguments

db  
A database connection, as created by `create_db()`.

Value

A data frame containing the `file_name`, `participant_id`, and `study_id` of the processed files.
get_studies

Description
[Stable]

Usage
get_studies(db, lazy = FALSE)

Arguments
db A database connection, as created by create_db().
lazy Whether to evaluate lazily using dbplyr.

Value
A data frame containing all studies.

haversine

Description
[Stable]
Calculate the great-circle distance between two points using the Haversine function.

Usage
haversine(lat1, lon1, lat2, lon2, r = 6371)

Arguments
lat1 The latitude of point 1 in degrees.
lon1 The longitude of point 1 in degrees.
lat2 The latitude of point 2 in degrees.
lon2 The longitude of point 2 in degrees.
r The average earth radius.

Value
A numeric value of the distance between point 1 and 2 in kilometers.
Examples

```r
tfra <- c(50.03333, 8.570556) # Frankfurt Airport
 tand <- c(41.97861, -87.90472) # Chicago O'Hare International Airport
 haversine(fra[1], fra[2], ord[1], ord[2]) # 6971.059 km
```


details

identify_gaps

Identify gaps in mpathsenser mobile sensing data

Description

[Stable]

Oftentimes in mobile sensing, gaps appear in the data as a result of the participant accidentally closing the app or the operating system killing the app to save power. This can lead to issues later on during data analysis when it becomes unclear whether there are no measurements because no events occurred or because the app quit in that period. For example, if no screen on/off event occurs in a 6-hour period, it can either mean the participant did not turn on their phone in that period or that the app simply quit and potential events were missed. In the latter case, the 6-hour missing period has to be compensated by either removing this interval altogether or by subtracting the gap from the interval itself (see examples).

Usage

```r
identify_gaps(
  db,
  participant_id = NULL,
  min_gap = 60,
  sensor = "Accelerometer"
)
```

Arguments

- `db`: A database connection to an m-Path Sense database.
- `participant_id`: A character string identifying a single participant. Use `get_participants` to retrieve all participants from the database. Leave empty to get data for all participants.
- `min_gap`: The minimum time (in seconds) passed between two subsequent measurements for it to be considered a gap.
- `sensor`: One or multiple sensors. See `sensors` for a list of available sensors.

Details

While any sensor can be used for identifying gaps, it is best to choose a sensor with a very high, near-continuous sample rate such as the accelerometer or gyroscope. This function then creates time between two subsequent measurements and returns the period in which this time was larger than `min_gap`.

Note that the `from` and `to` columns in the output are character vectors in UTC time.
Value

A tibble containing the time period of the gaps. The structure of this tibble is as follows:

- `participant_id`: the `participant_id` of where the gap occurred
- `from`: the time of the last measurement before the gap
- `to`: the time of the first measurement after the gap
- `gap`: the time passed between from and to, in seconds

Warning

Depending on the sensor that is used to identify the gaps (though this is typically the highest frequency sensor, such as the accelerometer or gyroscope), there may be a small delay between the start of the gap and the *actual* start of the gap. For example, if the accelerometer samples every 5 seconds, it may be after 4.99 seconds after the last accelerometer measurement (so just before the next measurement), the app was killed. However, within that time other measurements may still have taken place, thereby technically occurring "within" the gap. This is especially important if you want to use these gaps in `add_gaps` since this issue may lead to erroneous results.

An easy way to solve this problem is by taking into account all the sensors of interest when identifying the gaps, thereby ensuring there are no measurements of these sensors within the gap. One way to account for this is to (as in this example) search for gaps 5 seconds longer than you want and then afterwards increasing the start time of the gaps by 5 seconds.

Examples

```r
# Find the gaps for a participant and convert to datetime
gaps <- identify_gaps(db, "12345", min_gap = 60) %>%
  mutate(across(c(to, from), ymd_hms)) %>%
  mutate(across(c(to, from), with_tz, "Europe/Brussels"))

# Get some sensor data and calculate a statistic, e.g. the time spent walking
# You can also do this with larger intervals, e.g. the time spent walking per hour
walking_time <- get_data(db, "Activity", "12345") %>%
  collect() %>%
  mutate(datetime = ymd_hms(paste(date, time))) %>%
  mutate(datetime = with_tz(datetime, "Europe/Brussels")) %>%
  arrange(datetime) %>%
  mutate(prev_time = lag(datetime)) %>%
  mutate(duration = datetime - prev_time) %>%
  filter(type == "WALKING")

# Find out if a gap occurs in the time intervals
walking_time %>%
  rowwise() %>%
  mutate(gap = any(gaps$from >= prev_time & gaps$to <= datetime))
```

## End(Not run)
import  

Import m-Path Sense files into a database

Description

[Stable]

Import JSON files from m-Path Sense into a structured database. This function is the bread and butter of this package, as it creates (or rather fills) the database that most of the other functions in this package use.

Usage

```r
import(
  path = getwd(),
  db,
  sensors = NULL,
  batch_size = 24,
  backend = "RSQLite",
  recursive = TRUE,
  dbname = deprecated(),
  overwrite_db = deprecated(),
  parallel = deprecated()
)
```

Arguments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>path</td>
<td>The path to the file directory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>db</td>
<td>Valid database connection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sensors</td>
<td>Select one or multiple sensors as in <code>sensors</code>. Leave NULL to extract all sensor data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>batch_size</td>
<td>The number of files that are to be processed in a single batch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>backend</td>
<td>Name of the database backend that is used. Currently, only RSQLite is supported.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recursive</td>
<td>Should the listing recurse into directories?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dbname</td>
<td>[Deprecated]: Creating new databases on the fly has been deprecated as it is better to separate the two functions. You must now create a new database using <code>create_db()</code> or reuse an existing one.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>overwrite_db</td>
<td>[Deprecated]: This argument was used when database creation in <code>import()</code> was still supported. As this functionality is deprecated, <code>overwrite_db</code> is now ignored and will be removed in future versions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parallel</td>
<td>A value that indicates whether to do reading in and processing in parallel. If this argument is a number, this indicates the number of workers that will be used. [Deprecated]: As functions should not modify the user’s workspace, directly toggling parallel support has been deprecated. Please use <code>future::plan(&quot;multisession&quot;)</code> before calling this function to use multiple workers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Index for mPathsens Database

Details

Import allows you to specify which sensors to import (even though there may be more in the files) and it also allows batching for a speedier writing process. If processing in parallel is active, it is recommended that batch_size be a scalar multiple of the number of CPU cores the parallel cluster can use. If a single JSON file in the batch causes an error, the batch is terminated (but not the function) and it is up to the user to fix the file. This means that if batch_size is large, many files will not be processed. Set batch_size to 1 for sequential (one-by-one) file processing.

Currently, only SQLite is supported as a backend. Due to its concurrency restriction, the parallel option is disabled. To get an indication of the progress so far, set one of the progressr::handlers() using the progressr package, e.g. progressr::handlers(global = TRUE) and progressr::handlers('progress').

Value

A message indicating how many files were imported. Imported database can be reopened using open_db().

Parallel

This function supports parallel processing in the sense that it is able to distribute its computation load among multiple workers. To make use of this functionality, run future::plan("multisession") before calling this function.

Progress

You can be updated of the progress of this function by using the progressr::progress() package. See progressr's vignette on how to subscribe to these updates.

index_db

Create indexes for an mpathsenser database

Description

[Stable]

Usage

index_db(db)

Arguments

  db A database connection to an m-Path Sense database.

Value

No return value, called for side effects.
**installed_apps** | *Get installed apps*
---

**Description**

[Stable]

Extract installed apps for one or all participants. Contrarily to other get_* functions in this package, start and end dates are not used since installed apps are assumed to be fixed throughout the study.

**Usage**

```
installed_apps(db, participant_id = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

- `db` A database connection to an mpathsenser database.
- `participant_id` A character string identifying a single participant. Use `get_participants` to retrieve all participants from the database. Leave empty to get data for all participants.

**Value**

A tibble containing app names.

---

**last_date** | *Extract the date of the last entry*
---

**Description**

[Stable]

A helper function for extracting the last date of entry of (of one or all participant) of one sensor. Note that this function is specific to the last date of a sensor. After all, it wouldn’t make sense to extract the last date for a participant of the device info, while the last accelerometer measurement occurred a day later.

**Usage**

```
last_date(db, sensor, participant_id = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

- `db` A database connection to an m-Path Sense database.
- `sensor` The name of a sensor. See `sensors` for a list of available sensors.
- `participant_id` A character string identifying a single participant. Use `get_participants` to retrieve all participants from the database. Leave empty to get data for all participants.
Value

A string in the format 'YYYY-mm-dd' of the last entry date.

Examples

```r
## Not run:
db <- open_db()  
first_date(db, "Accelerometer", "12345")

## End(Not run)
```

---

### Link

**Link y to the time scale of x**

Description

[Stable]

One of the key tasks in analysing mobile sensing data is being able to link it to other data. For example, when analysing physical activity data, it could be of interest to know how much time a participant spent exercising before or after an ESM beep to evaluate their stress level. `link()` allows you to map two data frames to each other that are on different time scales, based on a pre-specified offset before and/or after. This function assumes that both x and y have a column called `time` containing `DateTimeClasses`.

Usage

```r
link(
  x,  
  y,  
  by = NULL,  
  time,  
  end_time = NULL,  
  y_time,  
  offset_before = 0,  
  offset_after = 0,  
  add_before = FALSE,  
  add_after = FALSE,  
  name = "data",  
  split = by  
)
```

Arguments

- **x, y**  
  A pair of data frames or data frame extensions (e.g. a tibble). Both x and y must have a column called `time`.  

by

A character vector indicating the variable(s) to match by, typically the participant IDs. If NULL, the default, \_join() will perform a natural join, using all variables in common across x and y. Therefore, all data will be mapped to each other based on the time stamps of x and y. A message lists the variables so that you can check they're correct; suppress the message by supplying by explicitly. To join by different variables on x and y, use a named vector. For example, by = c('a' = 'b') will match x$a to y$b.

To join by multiple variables, use a vector with length > 1. For example, by = c('a', 'b') will match x$a to y$a and x$b to y$b. Use a named vector to match different variables in x and y. For example, by = c('a' = 'b', 'c' = 'd') will match x$a to y$b and x$c to y$d.

To perform a cross-join (when x and y have no variables in common), use by = character(). Note that the split argument will then be set to 1.

time

The name of the column containing the timestamps in x.

date

Optionally, the name of the column containing the end date in x. If specified, it means time defines the start time of the interval and end_time the end time. Note that this cannot be used at the same time as offset_before or offset_after.

y_time

The name of the column containing the timestamps in y.

offset_before

The time before each measurement in x that denotes the period in which y is matched. Must be convertible to a period by lubridate::as.period().

offset_after

The time after each measurement in x that denotes the period in which y is matched. Must be convertible to a period by lubridate::as.period().

add_before

Logical value. Do you want to add the last measurement before the start of each interval?

add_after

Logical value. Do you want to add the first measurement after the end of each interval?

name

The name of the column containing the nested y data.

split

An optional grouping variable to split the computation by. When working with large data sets, the computation can grow so large it no longer fits in your computer's working memory (after which it will probably fall back on the swap file, which is very slow). Splitting the computation trades some computational efficiency for a large decrease in RAM usage. This argument defaults to by to automatically suppress some of its RAM usage.

Details

y is matched to the time scale of x by means of time windows. These time windows are defined as the period between x - offset_before and x + offset_after. Note that either offset_before or offset_after can be 0, but not both. The "interval" of the measurements is therefore the associated time window for each measurement of x and the data of y that also falls within this period. For example, an offset_before of minutes(30) means to match all data of y that occurred before each measurement in x. An offset_after of 900 (i.e. 15 minutes) means to match all data of y that occurred after each measurement in x. When both offset_before and offset_after are specified, it means all data of y is matched in an interval of 30 minutes before and 15 minutes after each measurement of x, thus combining the two arguments.
The arguments `add_before` and `add_after` let you decide whether you want to add the last measurement before the interval and/or the first measurement after the interval respectively. This could be useful when you want to know which type of event occurred right before or after the interval of the measurement. For example, at `offset_before = "30 minutes"`, the data may indicate that a participant was running 20 minutes before a measurement in `x`. However, with just that information there is no way of knowing what the participant was doing the first 10 minutes of the interval. The same principle applies to after the interval. When `add_before` is set to `TRUE`, the last measurement of `y` occurring before the interval of `x` is added to the output data as the first row, having the time of `x - offset_before` (i.e. the start of the interval). When `add_after` is set to `TRUE`, the first measurement of `y` occurring after the interval of `x` is added to the output data as the last row, having the time of `x + offset_after` (i.e. the end of the interval). This way, it is easier to calculate the difference to other measurements of `y` later (within the same interval). Additionally, an extra column (`original_time`) is added in the nested data column, which is the original time of the `y` measurement and `NULL` for every other observation. This may be useful to check if the added measurement isn’t too distant (in time) from the others. Note that multiple rows may be added if there were multiple measurements in `y` at exactly the same time. Also, if there already is a row with a timestamp exactly equal to the start of the interval (for `add_before = TRUE`) or to the end of the interval (`add_after = TRUE`), no extra row is added.

**Value**

A tibble with the data of `x` with a new column `data` with the matched data of `y` according to `offset_before` and `offset_after`.

**Warning**

Note that setting `add_before` and `add_after` each add one row to each nested tibble of the data column. Thus, if you are only interested in the total count (e.g. the number of total screen changes), remember to set these arguments to `FALSE` or make sure to filter out rows that do not have an `original_time`. Simply subtracting 1 or 2 does not work as not all measurements in `x` may have a measurement in `y` before or after (and thus no row is added).

**Examples**

```r
# Define some data
x <- data.frame(
  time = rep(seq.POSIXt(as.POSIXct("2021-11-14 13:00:00"), by = "1 hour", length.out = 3), 2),
  participant_id = c(rep("12345", 3), rep("23456", 3)),
  item_one = rep(c(40, 50, 60), 2)
)

# Define some data that we want to link to x
y <- data.frame(
  time = rep(seq.POSIXt(as.POSIXct("2021-11-14 12:50:00"), by = "5 min", length.out = 30), 2),
  participant_id = c(rep("12345", 30), rep("23456", 30)),
  x = rep(1:30, 2)
)

# Now link y within 30 minutes before each row in x
# until the measurement itself:
link(
```
x = x,
y = y,
by = "participant_id",
time = time,
y_time = time,
offset_before = "30 minutes"
)

# We can also link y to a period both before and after
# each measurement in x.
# Also note that time, end_time and y_time accept both
# quoted names as well as character names.
link(
    x = x,
    y = y,
    by = "participant_id",
    time = "time",
    y_time = "time",
    offset_before = "15 minutes",
    offset_after = "15 minutes"
)

# It can be important to also know the measurements
# just preceding the interval or just after the interval.
# This adds an extra column called 'original_time' in the
# nested data, containing the original time stamp. The
# actual timestamp is set to the start time of the interval.
link(
    x = x,
    y = y,
    by = "participant_id",
    time = time,
    y_time = time,
    offset_before = "15 minutes",
    offset_after = "15 minutes",
    add_before = TRUE,
    add_after = TRUE
)

# If you participant_id is not important to you
# (i.e. the measurements are interchangeable),
# you can ignore them by leaving by empty.
# However, in this case we'll receive a warning
# since x and y have no other columns in common
# (except time, of course). Thus, we can perform
# a cross-join:
link(
    x = x,
    y = y,
    by = character(),
    time = time,
    y_time = time,
    offset_before = "30 minutes"
# Alternatively, we can specify custom intervals.
# That is, we can create variable intervals
# without using fixed offsets.
x <- data.frame(
  start_time = rep(
    x = as.POSIXct(c("2021-11-14 12:40:00",
                     "2021-11-14 13:30:00",
                     "2021-11-14 15:00:00")),
    times = 2),
  end_time = rep(
    x = as.POSIXct(c("2021-11-14 13:20:00",
                     "2021-11-14 14:10:00",
                     "2021-11-14 15:30:00")),
    times = 2),
  participant_id = c(rep("12345", 3), rep("23456", 3)),
  item_one = rep(c(40, 50, 60), 2)
)
link(
  x = x,
  y = y,
  by = "participant_id",
  time = start_time,
  end_time = end_time,
  y_time = time,
  add_before = TRUE,
  add_after = TRUE
)

---

**link_db**  
*Link two sensors OR one sensor and an external data frame using an mpathsenser database*

**Description**

[Superseded]

This function is specific to mpathsenser databases. It is a wrapper around `link()` but extracts data in the database for you. It is now soft deprecated as I feel this function’s use is limited in comparison to `link()`.

**Usage**

```r
link_db(
  db,
  sensor_one,
  sensor_two = NULL,
  external = NULL,
  external_time = "time",
  ...
)
```
offset_before = 0,
offset_after = 0,
add_before = FALSE,
add_after = FALSE,
participant_id = NULL,
start_date = NULL,
end_date = NULL,
reverse = FALSE,
ignore_large = FALSE
}

Arguments

db
A database connection to an m-Path Sense database.
sensor_one
The name of a primary sensor. See sensors for a list of available sensors.
sensor_two
The name of a secondary sensor. See sensors for a list of available sensors. Cannot be used together with external.
external
Optionally, specify an external data frame. Cannot be used at the same time as a second sensor. This data frame must have a column called time.
external_time
The name of the column containing the timestamps in external.
offset_before
The time before each measurement in x that denotes the period in which y is matched. Must be convertible to a period by lubridate::as.period().
offset_after
The time after each measurement in x that denotes the period in which y is matched. Must be convertible to a period by lubridate::as.period().
add_before
Logical value. Do you want to add the last measurement before the start of each interval?
add_after
Logical value. Do you want to add the first measurement after the end of each interval?
participant_id
A character string identifying a single participant. Use get_participants to retrieve all participants from the database. Leave empty to get data for all participants.
start_date
Optional search window specifying date where to begin search. Must be convertible to date using as.Date. Use first_date to find the date of the first entry for a participant.
end_date
Optional search window specifying date where to end search. Must be convertible to date using as.Date. Use last_date to find the date of the last entry for a participant.
reverse
Switch sensor_one with either sensor_two or external? Particularly useful in combination with external.
ignore_large
Safety override to prevent long wait times. Set to TRUE to do this function on lots of data.

Value

A tibble with the data of sensor_one with a new column data with the matched data of either sensor_two or external according to offset_before or offset_after. The other way around when reverse = TRUE.
**link_gaps**  

*Link gaps to (ESM) data*

**Description**

*Experimental*

Gaps in mobile sensing data typically occur when the app is stopped by the operating system or the user. While small gaps may not pose problems with analyses, greater gaps may cause bias or skew your data. As a result, gap data should be considered in order to inspect and limit their influence. This function, analogous to `link()`, allows you to connect gaps to other data (usually ESM/EMA data) within a user-specified time range.

**Usage**

```r
link_gaps(
  data,
  gaps,
  by = NULL,
  offset_before = 0,
  offset_after = 0,
  raw_data = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

- `data`  
  A data frame or an extension to a data frame (e.g. a tibble). While gap data can be linked to any other type of data, ESM data is most commonly used.

- `gaps`  
  A data frame (extension) containing the gap data. See `identify_gaps()` for retrieving gap data from an mpathsenser database. It should at least contain the columns `from` and `to` (both in a date-time format), as well as any specified columns in `by`.

- `by`  
  A character vector indicating the variable(s) to match by, typically the participant IDs. If NULL, the default, `*_join()` will perform a natural join, using all variables in common across `x` and `y`. Therefore, all data will be mapped to each other based on the time stamps of `x` and `y`. A message lists the variables so that you can check they’re correct; suppress the message by supplying by explicitly. To join by different variables on `x` and `y`, use a named vector. For example, `by = c('a' = 'b')` will match `x$a` to `y$b`. To join by multiple variables, use a vector with `length > 1`. For example, `by = c('a', 'b')` will match `x$a` to `y$a` and `x$b` to `y$b`. Use a named vector to match different variables in `x` and `y`. For example, `by = c('a' = 'b', 'c' = 'd')` will match `x$a` to `y$b` and `x$c` to `y$d`. To perform a cross-join (when `x` and `y` have no variables in common), use `by = character()`. Note that the split argument will then be set to 1.
offset_before The time before each measurement in a that denotes the period in which y is matched. Must be convertible to a period by lubridate::as.period().

offset_after The time after each measurement in a that denotes the period in which y is matched. Must be convertible to a period by lubridate::as.period().

raw_data Whether to include the raw data (i.e. the matched gap data) to the output as gap_data.

Value

The original data with an extra column duration indicating the gap during within the interval in seconds (if duration is TRUE), or an extra column called gap_data containing the gaps within the interval. The function ensures all durations and gap time stamps are within the range of the interval.

See Also

bin_data() for linking two sets of intervals to each other; identify_gaps() for finding gaps in the sampling; add_gaps() for adding gaps to sensor data;

moving_average

Description

[Experimental]

Usage

moving_average(
  db,
  sensor,
  cols,
  n,
  participant_id = NULL,
  start_date = NULL,
  end_date = NULL
)

Arguments

db A database connection to an m-Path Sense database.
sensor The name of a sensor. See sensors for a list of available sensors.
cols Character vectors of the columns in the sensor table to average over.
n The number of seconds to average over. The index of the result will be centered compared to the rolling window of observations.
participant_id A character vector identifying one or multiple participants.
open_db

Description

[Stable]

Usage

open_db(path = getwd(), db_name = "sense.db")

Arguments

  path          The path to the database. Use NULL to use the full path name in db_name.
  db_name      The name of the database.

Value

A connection to an mpathsenser database.
See Also

`close_db()` for closing a database; `copy_db()` for copying (part of) a database; `index_db()` for indexing a database; `get_data()` for extracting data from a database.

---

### plot.coverage

**Plot a coverage overview**

#### Description

Plot a coverage overview

#### Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'coverage'
plot(x, ...)
```

#### Arguments

- `x`: A tibble with the coverage data coming from `coverage()`.
- `...`: Other arguments passed on to methods. Not currently used.

#### Value

A `ggplot2::ggplot` object.

#### See Also

`coverage()`

---

### sensors

**Available Sensors**

#### Description

[Stable]
A list containing all available sensors in this package you can work with. This variable was created so it is easier to use in your own functions, e.g. to loop over sensors.

#### Usage

`sensors`

#### Format

An object of class character of length 25.
**Value**

A character vector containing all sensor names supported by `mpathsenser`.

**Examples**

```r
sensors
test_jsons
```

---

**Description**

**[Stable]**

**Usage**

```r
test_jsons(
  path = getwd(),
  files = NULL,
  db = NULL,
  recursive = TRUE,
  parallel = deprecated()
)
```

**Arguments**

- `path` The path name of the JSON files.
- `files` Alternatively, a character list of the input files.
- `db` A `mpathsenser` database connection (optional). If provided, will be used to check which files are already in the database and check only those JSON files which are not.
- `recursive` Should the listing recurse into directories?
- `parallel` A logical value whether you want to check in parallel. Useful when there are a lot of files. If you have already used `plan`, you can leave this parameter to `FALSE`.

**[Deprecated]** As functions should not modify the user's workspace, directly toggling parallel support has been deprecated. Please use `plan("multisession")` before calling this function to use multiple workers.

**Value**

A message indicating whether there were any issues and a character vector of the file names that need to be fixed. If there were no issues, an invisible empty string is returned.
Parallel

This function supports parallel processing in the sense that it is able to distribute its computation load among multiple workers. To make use of this functionality, run `future::plan("multisession")` before calling this function.

Progress

You can be updated of the progress of this function by using the `progressr::progress()` package. See `progressr`'s vignette on how to subscribe to these updates.

---

**unzip_data**

*Unzip* *m*-Path Sense output

---

**Description**

**[Stable]**

Similar to `unzip`, but makes it easier to unzip all files in a given path with one function call.

**Usage**

```r
unzip_data(
  path = getwd(),
  to = NULL,
  overwrite = FALSE,
  recursive = TRUE,
  parallel = deprecated()
)
```

**Arguments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>path</td>
<td>The path to the directory containing the zip files.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to</td>
<td>The output path.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>overwrite</td>
<td>Logical value whether you want to overwrite already existing zip files.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recursive</td>
<td>Logical value indicating whether to unzip files in subdirectories as well. These files will then be unzipped in their respective subdirectory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parallel</td>
<td>A logical value whether you want to check in parallel. Useful when there are a lot of files. If you have already used <code>future::plan(&quot;multisession&quot;)</code>, you can leave this parameter to FALSE.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**[Deprecated]** As functions should not modify the user’s workspace, directly toggling parallel support has been deprecated. Please use `plan("multisession")` before calling this function to use multiple workers.

**Value**

A message indicating how many files were unzipped.
**Parallel**

This function supports parallel processing in the sense that it is able to distribute its computation load among multiple workers. To make use of this functionality, run `future::plan("multisession")` before calling this function.

**Progress**

You can be updated of the progress of this function by using the `progressr::progress()` package. See `progressr`'s vignette on how to subscribe to these updates.
Index

* datasets
  freq, 16
  sensors, 36

add_gaps, 2, 4, 23
add_gaps(), 34
app_category, 4
app_usage, 18
as.Date, 18, 32, 35
base::as.Date(), 11, 19
bin_data, 6
bin_data(), 34
ccopy, 8
close_db, 9
close_db(), 36
copy_db, 9
copy_db(), 10, 36
coverage, 10
coverage(), 16, 36
create_db, 12
create_db(), 10, 19–21, 24

DateTimeClasses, 27
DBI::dbDisconnect(), 9
dplyr, 20, 21
decrypt_gps, 12
device_info, 13

first_date, 14, 18, 32, 35
first_date(), 19
fix_jsons, 15
freq, 16

geocode_rev, 17
get_data, 18
get_data(), 3, 36
get_nrows, 19
get_participants, 14, 18, 20, 22, 26, 32
get_participants(), 19

get_processed_files, 20
get_studies, 21
ggplot2::ggplot, 36

haversine, 21
identify_gaps, 22
identify_gaps(), 3, 4, 33, 34
import, 16, 24
import(), 24
index_db, 25
index_db(), 36
installed_apps, 26

last_date, 18, 26, 32, 35
last_date(), 19
link, 27
link(), 4, 27, 31, 33
link_db, 31
link_gaps, 33
link_gaps(), 4, 6
lubridate::as.period(), 28, 32, 34

minutes, 28
moving_average, 34

open_db, 10, 35
open_db(), 9, 25

plan, 15, 37, 38
plot.coverage, 36
plot.coverage(), 11
progressr::handlers(), 25
progressr::progress(), 16, 25, 38, 39

screen_duration, 18
sensors, 10, 14, 18, 19, 22, 24, 26, 32, 34, 36
sodium::hex2bin(), 12

tbl, 18
test_jsons, 16, 37
unzip. 38
unzip_data. 38