

# Package ‘link2GI’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Linking Geographic Information Systems, Remote Sensing and Other  
Command Line Tools

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**Description** Functions to simplify the linking of open source GIS and remote sensing related command line interfaces.

**URL** <https://github.com/r-spatial/link2GI/>,  
<https://r-spatial.github.io/link2GI/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/r-spatial/link2GI/issues/>

**License** GPL (>= 3) | file LICENSE

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**Imports** devtools, R.utils, roxygen2, sf (>= 0.9), stringr, terra,  
methods, utils, xml2

**SystemRequirements** GNU make

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, sp, rgrass7, rgrass, stars, curl,  
listviewer, markdown

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** no

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## R topics documented:

findGDAL	2
findGRASS	3
findOTB	4
findSAGA	5
gvec2sf	5
initProj	7
link2GI	8
linkAll	8
linkGDAL	10
linkGRASS	11
linkGRASS7	14
linkOTB	17
linkSAGA	19
paramGRASSw	20
paramGRASSx	21
parseOTBAlgorithms	22
parseOTBFunction	23
rgb	24
runOTB	24
setenvGDAL	26
setenvGRASSw	27
setenvOTB	28
sf2gvec	28
<b>Index</b>	<b>30</b>

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findGDAL	<i>Search recursively existing 'GDAL binaries' installation(s) at a given drive/mountpoint</i>
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### Description

Provides an list of valid 'GDAL' installation(s) on your 'Windows' system. There is a major difference between osgeo4W and stand\_alone installations. The functions trys to find all valid installations by analysing the calling batch scripts.

### Usage

```
findGDAL(searchLocation = "default", quiet = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

searchLocation	drive letter to be searched, for Windows systems default is C:, for Linux systems default is /usr.
quiet	boolean switch for supressing console messages default is TRUE

**Value**

A dataframe with the 'GDAL' root folder(s), and command line executable(s)

**Author(s)**

Chris Reudenbach

**Examples**

```
run = FALSE
if (run) {
# find recursively all existing 'GDAL' installations folders starting
# at the default search location
findGDAL()
}
```

---

findGRASS	<i>Return attributes of valid 'GRASS GIS' installation(s) on the system</i>
-----------	---

---

**Description**

Provides a list of valid 'GRASS GIS' installation(s) on your system. There is a major difference between osgeo4W and stand\_alone installations. The functions tries to find all valid installations by analysing the calling batch scripts.

**Usage**

```
findGRASS(searchLocation = "default", ver_select = FALSE, quiet = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

searchLocation	location to be searched for the grass executable, i.e. one executable for each GRASS installation on the system. For Windows systems it is mandatory to include an uppercase Windows drive letter and a colon. Default For Windows Systems is C:, for Linux systems default is /usr/bin.
ver_select	boolean default is FALSE. If there is more than one 'SAGA GIS' installation and ver_select = TRUE the user can select interactively the preferred 'SAGA GIS' version
quiet	boolean switch for supressing console messages default is TRUE

**Value**

A dataframe with the 'GRASS GIS' binary folder(s) (i.e. where the individual GRASS commands are installed), version name(s) and installation type code(s)

**Author(s)**

Chris Reudenbach

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# find recursively all existing 'GRASS GIS' installation folders starting
# at the default search location
findGRASS()

## End(Not run)
```

---

findOTB	<i>Search recursively existing 'Orfeo Toolbox' installation(s) at a given drive/mountpoint</i>
---------	--

---

**Description**

Provides an list of valid 'OTB' installation(s) on your 'Windows' system. There is a major difference between osgeo4W and stand\_alone installations. The functions tries to find all valid installations by analysing the calling batch scripts.

**Usage**

```
findOTB(searchLocation = "default", quiet = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

searchLocation	drive letter to be searched, for Windows systems default is C:, for Linux systems default is /usr.
quiet	boolean switch for suppressing console messages default is TRUE

**Value**

A dataframe with the 'OTB' root folder(s), and command line executable(s)

**Author(s)**

Chris Reudenbach

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# find recursively all existing 'Orfeo Toolbox' installations folders starting
# at the default search location
findOTB()

## End(Not run)
```

---

findSAGA	<i>Search recursively existing 'SAGA GIS' installation(s) at a given drive/mountpoint</i>
----------	---

---

### Description

Provides an list of valid 'SAGA GIS' installation(s) on your 'Windows' system. There is a major difference between osgeo4W and stand\_alone installations. The functions trys to find all valid installations by analysing the calling batch scripts.

### Usage

```
findSAGA(searchLocation = "default", quiet = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

searchLocation	drive letter to be searched, for Windows systems default is C:, for Linux systems default is /usr.
quiet	boolean switch for supressing console messages default is TRUE

### Value

A dataframe with the 'SAGA GIS' root folder(s), version name(s) and installation type code(s)

### Author(s)

Chris Reudenbach

### Examples

```
## Not run:
# find recursively all existing 'SAGA GIS' installation folders starting
# at the default search location
findSAGA()

## End(Not run)
```

---

gvec2sf	<i>Converts from an existing 'GRASS' environment an arbitrary vector dataset into a sf object</i>
---------	---

---

### Description

Converts from an existing 'GRASS' environment an arbitrary vector dataset into a sf object

**Usage**

```
gvec2sf(x, obj_name, gisdbase, location, gisdbase_exist = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

x	sf object corresponding to the settings of the corresponding GRASS container
obj_name	name of GRASS layer
gisdbase	GRASS gisDbase folder
location	GRASS location name containing obj_name)
gisdbase_exist	logical switch if the GRASS gisdbase folder exist default is TRUE

**Note**

have a look at the [sf](#) capabilities to read direct from sqlite

**Author(s)**

Chris Reudenbach

**Examples**

```
run = FALSE
if (run) {
  ## example
  require(sf)
  require(sp)
  require(link2GI)
  data(meuse)
  meuse_sf = st_as_sf(meuse,
                     coords = c("x", "y"),
                     crs = 28992,
                     agr = "constant")

  # write data to GRASS and create gisdbase
  sf2gvec(x = meuse_sf,
         obj_name = "meuse_R-G",
         gisdbase = "~/temp3/",
         location = "project1")

  # read from existing GRASS
  gvec2sf(x = meuse_sf,
         obj_name = "meuse_r_g",
         gisdbase = "~/temp3/",
         location = "project1")
}
```

---

initProj	<i>Defines and creates folders and variables</i>
----------	--

---

### Description

Defines and creates (if necessary) all folders variables. Returns a list with the project folder pathes. Optionally exports all pathes to a global sub environment.

### Usage

```
initProj(  
  projRootDir = tempdir(),  
  GRASSlocation = "tmp/",  
  projFolders = c("data/", "result/", "run/", "log/"),  
  path_prefix = "",  
  global = FALSE  
)
```

### Arguments

projRootDir	project github root directory (your github name)
GRASSlocation	folder for GRASS data
projFolders	list of subfolders in project
path_prefix	character a prefix for the path variables names default is ""
global	boolean esport path strings as global variables default is false

### Examples

```
## Not run:  
  
link2GI::initProj(projRootDir = tempdir(),  
  projFolders = c("data/",  
    "data/level0/",  
    "data/level1/",  
    "output/",  
    "run/",  
    "fun/")) )  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

 link2GI

*Bridges to the GI-World*


---

### Description

A straightforward helper tool for linking GI/RS functionality to R. The goal of the package is to correctly initialize both the existing wrapper packages rgrass and RSAGA and to smoothly enable the necessary system variables and path parameters for a direct access of the binaries via direct system calls on all operating systems. In particular, rgrass and RSAGA can cause severe problems during initialization of parallel installations of GRASS GIS or SAGA GIS under the Windows operating system(s). link2GI tries to set the correct system settings and returns if system calls are required the necessary paths and command strings.

Furthermore the package provides a linkage to the Orfeo Toolbox (OTB) software. Due to the difficulties linking the correct GDAL binaries a new system wide search for GDAL binaries is implemented.

Finally there are some usefull functions for creating project folder structures and project environments. To deal with the not always consistent API-calls of OTB a list based command parser and generator is provided.

### Details

Functions for linking GI/RS functionality to R

### Note

To utilize the power of the open source GI tools from within R you need to install them first. The link2GI package just tries to generate correct environment settings as system and path variables for the most of the known issues. The installation of the QGIS, GRASS GIS 7.x and SAGA-GIS GIS software is described in the vignettes.

link2GI is tested under Windows 7/10 as well as on the Ubuntu/Debian/Arch Linux distributions. The OSX operation system should run but is not tested (Any help is highly appreciated).

### Author(s)

Chris Reudenbach Tim Appelhans

*Maintainer:* Chris Reudenbach <reudenbach@uni-marburg.de>

---

 linkAll

*convenient function to establish all link2GI links*


---

### Description

brute force search, find and linkl of all link2GI link functions. This is helpfull if yor system is well setup and the standard linkage procedure will provide the correct linkages.



**Usage**

```
linkAll(  
  links = NULL,  
  simple = TRUE,  
  linkItems = c("saga", "grass", "otb", "gdal"),  
  sagaArgs = "default",  
  grassArgs = "default",  
  otbArgs = "default",  
  gdalArgs = "default",  
  quiet = FALSE  
)
```

**Arguments**

links	character. links
simple	logical. true make all
linkItems	character. list of c("saga","grass","otb","gdal")
sagaArgs	character. full string of sagaArgs
grassArgs	character. grassArgs full string of grassArgs
otbArgs	character. full string of otbArgs
gdalArgs	character. full string of gdalArgs
quiet	supress all messages default is FALSE

**Note**

You may also use the full list of arguments that is made available from the link2GI package, but it is strongly recommended in this case to use directly the single linkage functions from link2GI.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
# required packages  
require(link2GI)  
  
# search, find and create the links to all supported GI software  
giLinks<-linkAll()  
  
# makes the GDAL linkage verbose  
giLinks<-linkAll(gdalArgs= "quiet = TRUE")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

linkGDAL

*Locate and set up 'GDAL' API bindings***Description**

Locate and set up '**GDAL - Geospatial Data Abstraction Librar**' API bindings

**Usage**

```
linkGDAL(
  bin_GDAL = NULL,
  searchLocation = NULL,
  ver_select = FALSE,
  quiet = TRUE,
  returnPaths = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

bin_GDAL	string contains path to where the gdal binaries are located
searchLocation	string hard drive letter default is C:
ver_select	boolean default is FALSE. If there is more than one 'GDAL' installation and ver_select = TRUE the user can select interactively the preferred 'GDAL' version
quiet	boolean switch for supressing messages default is TRUE
returnPaths	boolean if set to FALSE the pathes of the selected version are written to the PATH variable only, otherwise all paths and versions of the installed GRASS versions ae returned.

**Details**

It looks for the gdalinfo(.exe) file. If the file is found in a bin folder it is assumed to be a valid 'GDAL' binary installation.

if called without any parameter linkGDAL() it performs a full search over the harddrive C:. If it finds one or more 'GDAL' binaries it will take the first hit. You have to set ver\_select = TRUE for an interactive selection of the preferred version.

**Value**

add gdal pathes to the enviroment and creates global variables path\_GDAL

**Note**

You may also set the path manually. Using a 'OSGeo4W64' <https://trac.osgeo.org/osgeo4w/> installation it is typically C:/OSGeo4W64/bin/

**Author(s)**

Chris Reudenbach

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# call if you do not have any idea if and where GDAL is installed
gdal<-linkGDAL()
if (gdal$exist) {
# call it for a default OSGeo4W installation of the GDAL
print(gdal)
}

## End(Not run)
```

---

linkGRASS

*Locate and set up 'GRASS' API bindings*

---

**Description**

Initializes the session environment and the system paths for an easy access to **'GRASS GIS 7.x/8.x'**. The correct setup of the spatial and projection parameters is automatically performed by using either an existing and valid raster, terra, sp or sf object, or manually by providing a list containing the minimum parameters needed.

**Usage**

```
linkGRASS(
  x = NULL,
  default_GRASS = NULL,
  search_path = NULL,
  ver_select = FALSE,
  gisdbase_exist = FALSE,
  gisdbase = NULL,
  use_home = FALSE,
  location = NULL,
  spatial_params = NULL,
  resolution = NULL,
  quiet = TRUE,
  returnPaths = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

x raster/terra or sf/sp object

default_GRASS	default is NULL If is NULL an automatic search for all installed versions is performed. If you provide a valid list the corresponding version is initialized. An example for OSGeo4W64 is: c("C:/OSGeo4W64", "grass-7.0.5", "osgeo4w")
search_path	path or mounting point that will be searched
ver_select	boolean if TRUE you may choose interactively the binary version (if found more than one), by default FALSE
gisdbase_exist	default is FALSE if set to TRUE the arguments gisdbase and location are expected to be an existing GRASS gisdbase
gisdbase	default is NULL, invoke tempdir() to the 'GRASS' database. Alternatively you can provide a individual path.
use_home	default is FALSE, set the GISRC path to tempdir(), if TRUE the HOME or USERPROFILE setting is used for writing the GISRC file
location	default is NULL, invoke basename(tempfile()) for defining the 'GRASS' location. Alternatively you can provide a individual path.
spatial_params	default is NULL. Instead of a spatial object you may provide the geometry as a list. E.g. c(xmin,ymin,xmax,ymax,proj4_string)
resolution	resolution in map units for the GRASS raster cells
quiet	boolean switch for suppressing console messages default is TRUE
returnPaths	boolean if set to FALSE the pathes of the selected version are written to the PATH variable only, otherwise all paths and versions of the installed GRASS versions ae returned.

### Details

The concept is straightforward but for an all days usage helpful. Either you need to provide a raster or sp sf spatial object which has correct spatial and projection properties or you may link directlxy to an existing 'GRASS' gisdbase and mapset. If you choose an spatial object to initialize a correct 'GRASS' mapset it is used to create either a temporary or a permanent **rgrass** environment including the correct 'GRASS' structure.

The most time consuming part on 'Windows' Systems is the search process. This can easily take 10 or more minutes. To speed up this process you can also provide a correct parameter set. Best way to do so is to call searchGRASSW or for 'Linux' searchGRASSX manually. and call linkGRASS with the version arguments of your choice. linkGRASS initializes the usage of GRASS7.

### Note

'GRASS GIS' is excellently supported by the rgrass wrapper package. Nevertheless 'GRASS GIS' is well known for its high demands regarding the correct spatial and reference setup of work space and environment requirements. This becomes even worse on 'Windows' platforms or if several alternative 'GRASS GIS' installations are available. If one knows what to do the rgrass package setup function rgrass::initGRASS works fine under Linux. This is also valid for well known configurations under the 'Windows' operation system. Nevertheless on university labs or on company computers with restricted privileges and/or using different releases like the 'OSGeo4W' distribution and the 'GRASS' **stand-alone** installation, or different software releases (e.g. 'GRASS 7.0.5 and GRASS 8.1.0), it becomes often cumbersome or even impossible to get the correct linkages.

The function linkGRASS tries to find all valid 'GRASS GIS' binaries by analyzing the startup script files of 'GRASS GIS'. After identifying the 'GRASS GIS' binaries all necessary system variables and settings will be generated and passed to a temporary R environment.

If you have more than one valid installation and run linkGRASS() without arguments, you will be asked to select one.

### Author(s)

Chris Reudenbach

### Examples

```
run = FALSE
if (run) {
  library(link2GI)
  require(sf)

  # proj folders
  projRootDir = tempdir()
  paths = link2GI::initProj(projRootDir = projRootDir,
                           projFolders = c("project1/"))

  # get data
  nc = st_read(system.file("shape/nc.shp", package="sf"))

  # Automatic search and find of GRASS binaries
  # using the nc sf data object for spatial referencing
  # This is the highly recommended linking procedure for on the fly jobs
  # NOTE: if more than one GRASS installation is found you have to choose.
  grass = linkGRASS(nc,returnPaths = TRUE)
  if (grass$exist){

  # CREATE and link to a permanent GRASS folder at "projRootDir", location named "project1"
  linkGRASS(nc, gisdbase = projRootDir, location = "project1")

  # ONLY LINK to a permanent GRASS folder at "projRootDir", location named "project1"
  linkGRASS(gisdbase = projRootDir, location = "project1", gisdbase_exist = TRUE )

  # setting up GRASS manually with spatial parameters of the nc data
  proj4_string = as.character(sp::CRS("+init=epsg:28992"))
  linkGRASS(spatial_params = c(178605,329714,181390,333611,proj4_string))

  # creating a GRASS gisdbase manually with spatial parameters of the nc data
  # additionally using a permanent directory "projRootDir" and the location "nc_spatial_params "
  proj4_string = as.character(sp::CRS("+init=epsg:4267"))
  linkGRASS(gisdbase = projRootDir,
            location = "nc_spatial_params",
            spatial_params = c(-84.32385, 33.88199,-75.45698,36.58965,proj4_string))
  }
}
```

```

## Some more examples related to interactive selection or OS specific settings

# SELECT the GRASS installation and define the search location
linkGRASS(nc, ver_select = TRUE, search_path = "~")

# SELECT the GRASS installation
linkGRASS(nc, ver_select = TRUE)

# Typical osge4W installation (QGIS), using the meuse sp data object for spatial referencing
linkGRASS(nc,c("C:/Program Files/QGIS 2.18", "grass-7.2.1", "osgeo4W"))

# Typical osgeo4W installation (rootdir), using the meuse sp data object for spatial referencing
linkGRASS(nc,c("C:/OSGeo4W64/", "grass-7.2.2", "osgeo4W"))

}

```

---

linkGRASS7	<i>Deprecated only for backwards compatibility Locate and set up 'GRASS' API bindings</i>
------------	---

---

## Description

Initializes the session environment and the system paths for an easy access to **'GRASS GIS 7.x/8.x'**. The correct setup of the spatial and projection parameters is automatically performed by using either an existing and valid raster, terra, sp or sf object, or manually by providing a list containing the minimum parameters needed.

## Usage

```

linkGRASS7(
  x = NULL,
  default_GRASS = NULL,
  search_path = NULL,
  ver_select = FALSE,
  gisdbase_exist = FALSE,
  gisdbase = NULL,
  use_home = FALSE,
  location = NULL,
  spatial_params = NULL,
  resolution = NULL,
  quiet = TRUE,
  returnPaths = TRUE
)

```

**Arguments**

x	raster/terra or sp/sf object
default_GRASS	default is NULL. If is NULL an automatic search for all installed versions is performed. If you provide a valid list the corresponding version is initialized. An example for OSGeo4W64 is: <code>c("C:/OSGeo4W64", "grass-7.0.5", "osgeo4w")</code>
search_path	path or mounting point that will be searched
ver_select	boolean if TRUE you may choose interactively the binary version (if found more than one), by default FALSE
gisdbase_exist	default is FALSE if set to TRUE the arguments gisdbase and location are expected to be an existing GRASS gisdbase
gisdbase	default is NULL, invoke <code>tempdir()</code> to the 'GRASS' database. Alternatively you can provide a individual path.
use_home	default is FALSE, set the GISRC path to <code>tempdir()</code> , if TRUE the HOME or USERPROFILE setting is used for writing the GISRC file
location	default is NULL, invoke <code>basename(tempfile())</code> for defining the 'GRASS' location. Alternatively you can provide a individual path.
spatial_params	default is NULL. Instead of a spatial object you may provide the geometry as a list. E.g. <code>c(xmin,ymin,xmax,ymax,proj4_string)</code>
resolution	resolution in map units for the GRASS raster cells
quiet	boolean switch for suppressing console messages default is TRUE
returnPaths	boolean if set to FALSE the paths of the selected version are written to the PATH variable only, otherwise all paths and versions of the installed GRASS versions are returned.

**Details**

The concept is straightforward but for an all days usage helpful. Either you need to provide a raster or sp sf spatial object which has correct spatial and projection properties or you may link directly to an existing 'GRASS' gisdbase and mapset. If you choose a spatial object to initialize a correct 'GRASS' mapset it is used to create either a temporary or a permanent **rgrass** environment including the correct 'GRASS' structure.

The most time consuming part on 'Windows' Systems is the search process. This can easily take 10 or more minutes. To speed up this process you can also provide a correct parameter set. Best way to do so is to call `searchGRASSW` or for 'Linux' `searchGRASSX` manually. and call `linkGRASS` with the version arguments of your choice. `linkGRASS` initializes the usage of GRASS.

**Note**

'GRASS GIS' is excellently supported by the `rgrass` wrapper package. Nevertheless 'GRASS GIS' is well known for its high demands regarding the correct spatial and reference setup of workspace and environment requirements. This becomes even worse on 'Windows' platforms or if several alternative 'GRASS GIS' installations are available. If one knows what to do the `rgrass` package setup function `rgrass::initGRASS` works fine under Linux. This is also valid for well known configurations under the 'Windows' operation system. Nevertheless on university lab or on

company computers with restricted privileges and/or using different releases like the 'OSGeo4W' distribution and the 'GRASS' *stand-alone* installation, or different software releases (e.g. 'GRASS 7.0.5 and GRASS 8.1.0), it becomes often cumbersome or even impossible to get the correct link-ages.

The function linkGRASS tries to find all valid 'GRASS GIS' binaries by analyzing the startup script files of 'GRASS GIS'. After identifying the 'GRASS GIS' binaries all necessary system variables and settings will be generated and passed to a temporary R environment.

If you have more than one valid installation and run linkGRASS() without arguments, you will be asked to select one.

### Author(s)

Chris Reudenbach

### Examples

```
## Not run:
library(link2GI)
require(sf)

# proj folders
projRootDir = tempdir()
paths = link2GI::initProj(projRootDir = projRootDir,
                          projFolders = c("project1/"))

# get data
nc = st_read(system.file("shape/nc.shp", package="sf"))

# Automatic search and find of GRASS binaries
# using the nc sf data object for spatial referencing
# This is the highly recommended linking procedure for on the fly jobs
# NOTE: if more than one GRASS installation is found you have to choose.
grass = linkGRASS(nc,returnPaths = TRUE)
if (grass$exist){

# CREATE and link to a permanent GRASS folder at "projRootDir", location named "project1"
linkGRASS(nc, gisdbase = projRootDir, location = "project1")

# ONLY LINK to a permanent GRASS folder at "projRootDir", location named "project1"
linkGRASS(gisdbase = projRootDir, location = "project1", gisdbase_exist = TRUE )

# setting up GRASS manually with spatial parameters of the nc data
proj4_string = as.character(sp::CRS("+init=epsg:28992"))
linkGRASS(spatial_params = c(178605,329714,181390,333611,proj4_string))

# creating a GRASS gisdbase manually with spatial parameters of the nc data
# additionally using a permanent directory "projRootDir" and the location "nc_spatial_params "
proj4_string = as.character(sp::CRS("+init=epsg:4267"))
linkGRASS(gisdbase = projRootDir,
          location = "nc_spatial_params",
```



```

        spatial_params = c(-84.32385, 33.88199,-75.45698,36.58965,proj4_string))
    }

    ## Some more examples related to interactive selection or OS specific settings

    # SELECT the GRASS installation and define the search location
    linkGRASS(nc, ver_select = TRUE, search_path = "~")

    # SELECT the GRASS installation
    linkGRASS(nc, ver_select = TRUE)

    # Typical osgeo4W installation (QGIS), using the meuse sp data object for spatial referencing
    linkGRASS(nc,c("C:/Program Files/QGIS 2.18","grass-7.2.1","osgeo4W"))

    # Typical osgeo4W installation (rootdir), using the meuse sp data object for spatial referencing
    linkGRASS(nc,c("C:/OSGeo4W64/", "grass-7.2.2", "osgeo4W"))

    ## End(Not run)

```

---

linkOTB

*Locate and set up 'Orfeo ToolBox' API bindings*


---

## Description

Locate and set up **'Orfeo ToolBox'** API bindings

## Usage

```

linkOTB(
  bin_OTB = NULL,
  root_OTB = NULL,
  type_OTB = NULL,
  searchLocation = NULL,
  ver_select = FALSE,
  quiet = TRUE,
  returnPaths = TRUE
)

```

## Arguments

bin_OTB	string contains path to where the otb binaries are located
root_OTB	string provides the root folder of the bin_OTB
type_OTB	string
searchLocation	string hard drive letter (Windows) or mounting point (Linux) default for Windows is C:., default for Linux is ~

ver_select	boolean default is FALSE. If there is more than one 'OTB' installation and ver_select = TRUE the user can select interactively the preferred 'OTB' version. In opposite if FALSE the newest version is automatically chosen.
quiet	boolean switch for suppressing messages default is TRUE
returnPaths	boolean if set to FALSE the paths of the selected version are written to the PATH variable only, otherwise all paths and versions of the installed GRASS versions are returned.

### Details

It looks for the `otb_cli.bat` file. If the file is found in a `bin` folder it is assumed to be a valid 'OTB' binary installation.

if called without any parameter `linkOTB()` it performs a full search over the harddrive `C:`. If it finds one or more 'OTB' binaries it will take the first hit. You have to set `ver_select = TRUE` for an interactive selection of the preferred version.

### Value

add `otb` paths to the environment and creates global variables `path_OTB`

### Note

You may also set the path manually. Using a 'OSGeo4W64' <https://trac.osgeo.org/osgeo4w/> installation it is typically `C:/OSGeo4W64/bin/`

### Author(s)

Chris Reudenbach

### Examples

```
## Not run:
# call if you do not have any idea if and where OTB is installed
otb<-linkOTB()
if (otb$exist) {
# call it for a default OSGeo4W installation of the OTB
print(otb)
}

## End(Not run)
```

---

linkSAGA	<i>Identifies SAGA GIS Installations and returns linking Informations</i>
----------	---

---

### Description

Finds the existing **SAGA GIS** installation(s), generates and sets the necessary path and system variables for a seamless use of the command line calls of the 'SAGA GIS' CLI API, setup valid system variables for calling a default `rsaga.env` and by this makes available the RSAGA wrapper functions.

All existing installation(s) means that it looks for the `saga_cmd` or `saga_cmd.exe` executables. If the file is found it is assumed to be a valid 'SAGA GIS' installation. If it is called without any argument the most recent (i.e. highest) SAGA GIS version will be linked.

### Usage

```
linkSAGA(
  default_SAGA = NULL,
  searchLocation = "default",
  ver_select = FALSE,
  quiet = TRUE,
  returnPaths = TRUE
)
```

### Arguments

<code>default_SAGA</code>	string contains path to RSAGA binaries
<code>searchLocation</code>	drive letter to be searched, for Windows systems default is C:, for Linux systems default is /usr.
<code>ver_select</code>	boolean default is FALSE. If there is more than one 'SAGA GIS' installation and <code>ver_select = TRUE</code> the user can select interactively the preferred 'SAGA GIS' version
<code>quiet</code>	boolean switch for suppressing console messages default is TRUE
<code>returnPaths</code>	boolean if set to FALSE the paths of the selected version are written to the PATH variable only, otherwise all paths and versions of the installed SAGA versions are returned. # @details If called without any parameter <code>linkSAGA()</code> it performs a full search over C:. If it finds one or more 'SAGA GIS' binaries it will take the first hit. You have to set <code>ver_select = TRUE</code> for an interactive selection of the preferred version. Additionally the selected SAGA paths are added to the environment and the global variables <code>sagaPath</code> , <code>sagaModPath</code> and <code>sagaCmd</code> will be created.

### Value

A list containing the selected RSAGA path variables `$sagaPath`, `$sagaModPath`, `$sagaCmd` and potentially other installations `$installed`

**Note**

The excellent 'SAGA GIS' wrapper **RSAGA** package was updated several times however it covers currently (Dec 2019) only 'SAGA GIS' versions from 2.3.1 - 6.3.0 The fast evolution of 'SAGA GIS' makes it highly impracticable to keep the wrapper adaptations in line (currently 7.5). RSAGA will meet all linking needs perfectly if you use 'SAGA GIS' versions from 2.0.4 - 7.5.0. However you must call `rsaga.env` using the `rsaga.env(modules = saga$sagaModPath)` assuming that `saga` contains the returnPaths of `linkSAGA` In addition most recently the very promising **Rsagacmd** wrapper package is providing a new list oriented wrapping tool.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

# call if you do not have any idea if and where SAGA GIS is installed
# it will return a list with the selected and available SAGA installations
# it prepares the system for running the selected SAGA version via RSAGA or CLI
linkSAGA()

# overriding the default environment of rsaga.env call

saga<-linkSAGA()
if (saga$exist) {
  require(RSAGA)
  RSAGA::rsaga.env(path = saga$installed$binDir[1],modules = saga$installed$moduleDir[1])
}

## End(Not run)
```

---

paramGRASSw

*Usually for internally usage get 'GRASS GIS' and rgrass parameters  
on 'Windows' OS*


---

**Description**

Initialize the environment variables on a 'Windows' OS for using 'GRASS GIS' via rgrass

**Usage**

```
paramGRASSw(
  set_default_GRASS = NULL,
  DL = "C:",
  ver_select = FALSE,
  quiet = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

set_default_GRASS	default = NULL forces a full search for 'GRASS GIS' binaries. You may alternatively provide a vector containing paths and keywords. c("C:/OSGeo4W64","grass-7.0.5","osgeo4w") is valid for a typical osgeo4w installation.
DL	character search location default = C:
ver_select	boolean default is FALSE. If there is more than one 'SAGA GIS' installation and ver_select = TRUE the user can select interactively the preferred 'SAGA GIS' version
quiet	boolean switch for supressing console messages default is TRUE

**Details**

The concept is very straightforward but for an all days usage pretty helpful. You need to provide a terra or a sf object. The derived properties are used to initialize a temporary but static `rgrass` environment. During the rsession you will have full access to GRASS7 both via the wrapper package as well as the command line. `paramGRASSw` initializes the usage of GRASS7.

**Examples**

```
run = FALSE
if (run) {
  # automatic retrieval of valid 'GRASS GIS' environment settings
  # if more than one is found the user has to choose.
  paramGRASSw()

  # typical OSGeo4W64 installation
  paramGRASSw(c("C:/OSGeo4W64", "grass-7.0.5", "osgeo4w"))
}
```

---

paramGRASSx	<i>Usually for internally usage, get 'GRASS GIS' and rgrass parameters on 'Linux' OS</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

Initialize and set up rgrass for 'Linux'

**Usage**

```
paramGRASSx(
  set_default_GRASS = NULL,
  MP = "/usr/bin",
  ver_select = FALSE,
  quiet = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

set_default_GRASS	default = NULL will force a search for 'GRASS GIS' You may provide a valid combination as c("/usr/lib/grass74","7.4.1","grass74")
MP	mount point to be searched. default is "/usr/bin"
ver_select	if TRUE you must interactively select between alternative installations
quiet	boolean switch for suppressing console messages default is TRUE

**Details**

During the rsession you will have full access to GRASS7 GIS via the rgrass wrapper. Additionally you may use also use the API calls of GRASS7 via the command line.

**Examples**

```
run = FALSE
if (run) {
# automatic retrieval of the GRASS7 environment settings
paramGRASSx()

# typical stand_alone installation
paramGRASSx("/usr/bin/grass72")

# typical user defined installation (compiled sources)
paramGRASSx("/usr/local/bin/grass72")
}
```

---

parseOTBAlgorithms      *Get OTB modules*

---

**Description**

retrieve the OTB module folder content and parses the module names

**Usage**

```
parseOTBAlgorithms(gili = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

gili	optional list of available 'OTB' binaries if not provided 'linkOTB()' is called
------	---

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
## link to the OTB binaries
otblink<-link2GI::linkOTB()

if (otblink$exist) {

## parse all modules
moduleList<-parseOTBAlgorithms(gili = otblink)

## print the list
print(moduleList)

}

## End(Not run)
```

---

parseOTBFunction	<i>Get OTB function argument list</i>
------------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

retrieve the choosen function and returns a full argument list with the default settings

**Usage**

```
parseOTBFunction(algo = NULL, gili = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

algo	either the number or the plain name of the ‘OTB’ algorithm that is wanted. Note the correct (of current/choosen version) information is pobided by ‘parseOTBAlgorithms()’
gili	optional list of avalailable ‘OTB’ binaries if not provided ‘linkOTB()’ is called

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
otblink<-link2GI::linkOTB()
if (otblink$exist) {

## parse all modules
algos<-parseOTBAlgorithms(gili = otblink)

## take edge detection
cmdList<-parseOTBFunction(algo = algos[27],gili = otblink)
## print the current command
```

```

print(cmdList)
}

## End(Not run)
##+##

```

---

rgb	<i>RGB ortho-image from an arbitrary Marburg Open Forest (MOF) plot</i>
-----	---

---

### Description

Example data set containing a RGB ortho-image of a small plot sampled in the Maburg University Forest aka Marburg Open Forest (MOF). The resolution is 10 cm, projection ETRS89 UTM32

### Format

```
"terra::rast"
```

---

runOTB	<i>Execute the OTB command list via system call</i>
--------	---

---

### Description

Wrapper function which paste the OTB command list into a system call compatible string and execute this command.

### Usage

```

runOTB(
  otbCmdList = NULL,
  gili = NULL,
  retRaster = TRUE,
  retCommand = FALSE,
  quiet = TRUE
)

```

### Arguments

otbCmdList	the OTB algorithm parameter list
gili	optional list providing the linkage to OTB as done by 'linkOTB()'. If not provided the 'runOTB' function try to link automatically.
retRaster	boolean if TRUE a raster stack is returned default is FALSE
retCommand	boolean if TRUE only the OTB API command is returned default is FALSE
quiet	boolean if TRUE suppressing messages default is TRUE



**Details**

#' Please NOTE: You must check the help to identify the correct input file argument codewort (\$input\_in or \$input\_il).

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
require(link2GI)
require(terra)
require(listviewer)

## link to OTB
otblink<-link2GI::linkOTB()

if (otblink$exist) {
  projRootDir<-tempdir()
  data('rgb', package = 'link2GI')
  terra::plotRGB(rgb)
  r<-terra::writeRaster(rgb,
                        filename=file.path(projRootDir,"test.tif"),
                        overwrite=TRUE)

## for an image output example we use the Statistic Extraction,
algoKeyword<- "LocalStatisticExtraction"

## extract the command list for the choosen algorithm
cmd<-parseOTBFunction(algo = algoKeyword, gili = otblink)

## Please NOTE:
## You must check the help to identify the correct argument codewort ($input_in or $input_il)
listviewer::jsonedit(cmd$help)

## define the mandatory arguments all other will be default
cmd$input_in <- file.path(tempdir(),"test.tif")
cmd$out <- file.path(tempdir(),"test_otb_stat.tif")
cmd$radius <- 7

## run algorithm
retStack<-runOTB(cmd,gili = otblink)

## plot image
terra::plot(retStack)

## for a data output example we use the

algoKeyword<- "ComputeImagesStatistics"

## extract the command list for the chosen algorithm
cmd<-parseOTBFunction(algo = algoKeyword, gili = otblink)

## get help using the convenient listviewer
listviewer::jsonedit(cmd$help)
```

```

## define the mandatory arguments all other will be default
cmd$input_il <- file.path(tempdir(),"test.tif")
cmd$ram <- 4096
cmd$out.xml <- file.path(tempdir(),"test_otb_stat.xml")
cmd$progress <- 1

## run algorithm
ret <- runOTB(cmd,gili = otblink, quiet = F)

## as vector
print(ret)

## as xml
XML::xmlParse(cmd$out)

}

## End(Not run)

```

---

setenvGDAL	<i>Usually for internally usage, initializes and set up access to the 'GDAL' command line interface</i>
------------	---

---

## Description

Initializes and set up access to the 'GDAL' command line interface

## Usage

```
setenvGDAL(bin_GDAL = NULL)
```

## Arguments

bin\_GDAL            string contains the path to the 'GDAL' binaries

## Value

Adds 'GDAL' paths to the enviroment and creates the variable global string variable gdalCmd, that contains the path to the 'GDAL' binaries.

## Examples

```

run = FALSE
if (run) {
## example for the most common default OSGeo4W64 installation of GDAL
setenvGDAL(bin_GDAL = "C:/OSGeo4W64/bin/",
           root_GDAL = "C:/OSGeo4W64")
}

```

---

setenvGRASSw	<i>Usually for internally usage, create valid 'GRASS GIS 7.xx' rsession environment settings according to the selected GRASS GIS 7.x and Windows Version</i>
--------------	--

---

## Description

Initializes and set up access to 'GRASS GIS 7.xx' via the rgrass wrapper or command line packages. Set and returns all necessary environment variables and additionally returns the GISBASE directory as string.

## Usage

```
setenvGRASSw(
  root_GRASS = NULL,
  grass_version = NULL,
  installation_type = NULL,
  jpgmem = 1e+06,
  quiet = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

root_GRASS	grass root directory i.e. "C:\OSGEO4~1",
grass_version	grass version name i.e. "grass-7.0.5"
installation_type	two options "osgeo4w" as installed by the 'OSGeo4W'-installer and "NSIS" that is typical for a stand_alone installation of 'GRASS GIS'.
jpgmem	jpeg2000 memory allocation size. Default is 1000000
quiet	boolean switch for suppressing console messages default is TRUE

## Author(s)

Chris Reudenbach

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# set chosen 'GRASS GIS' installation folders
setenvGRASSw(root_GRASS = "C:\\PROGRA~1\\QGIS2~1.18",
  grass_version = "grass-7.2.1",
  installation_type = "osgeo4w")

## End(Not run)
```

---

setenvOTB	<i>Usually for internally usage, initializes and set up access to the 'OTB' command line interface</i>
-----------	--

---

**Description**

Initializes and set up access to the 'OTB' command line interface

**Usage**

```
setenvOTB(bin_OTB = NULL, root_OTB = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

bin_OTB	string contains the path to the 'OTB' binaries
root_OTB	string contains the full string to the root folder containing the 'OTB' installation'

**Value**

Adds 'OTB' paths to the enviroment and creates the variable global string variable otbCmd, that contains the path to the 'OTB' binaries.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
## example for the most common default OSGeo4W64 installation of OTB
setenvOTB(bin_OTB = "C:\\OSGeo4W64\\bin\\",
          root_OTB = "C:\\OSGeo4W64")

## End(Not run)
```

---

sf2gvec	<i>Write sf object directly to 'GRASS' vector utilising an existing or creating a new GRASS environment</i>
---------	---

---

**Description**

Write sf object directly to 'GRASS' vector utilising an existing or creating a new GRASS environment

**Usage**

```
sf2gvec(x, epsg, obj_name, gisdbase, location, gisdbase_exist = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	sf object corresponding to the settings of the corresponding GRASS container
epsg	numeric epsg code
obj_name	name of GRASS layer
gisdbase	GRASS gisDbase folder
location	GRASS location name containing obj_name)
gisdbase_exist	logical switch if the GRASS gisdbase folder exist default is TRUE

**Note**

have a look at the sf capabilities to write direct to sqlite

**Author(s)**

Chris Reudenbach

**Examples**

```
run = FALSE
if (run) {
  ## example
  require(sf)
  require(sp)
  require(link2GI)
  data(meuse)
  meuse_sf = st_as_sf(meuse,
                      coords = c("x", "y"),
                      crs = 28992,
                      agr = "constant")

  # write data to GRASS and create gisdbase
  sf2gvec(x = meuse_sf,
          obj_name = "meuse_R-G",
          gisdbase = "~/temp3/",
          location = "project1")

  # read from existing GRASS
  gvec2sf(x = meuse_sf,
          obj_name = "meuse_r_g",
          gisdbase = "~/temp3/",
          location = "project1")
}
```

# Index

[findGDAL](#), [2](#)  
[findGRASS](#), [3](#)  
[findOTB](#), [4](#)  
[findSAGA](#), [5](#)

[gvec2sf](#), [5](#)

[initProj](#), [7](#)

[link2GI](#), [8](#)  
[linkAll](#), [8](#)  
[linkGDAL](#), [10](#)  
[linkGRASS](#), [11](#)  
[linkGRASS7](#), [14](#)  
[linkOTB](#), [17](#)  
[linkSAGA](#), [19](#)

[paramGRASSw](#), [20](#)  
[paramGRASSx](#), [21](#)  
[parseOTBAlgorithms](#), [22](#)  
[parseOTBFunction](#), [23](#)

[rgb](#), [24](#)  
[runOTB](#), [24](#)

[setenvGDAL](#), [26](#)  
[setenvGRASSw](#), [27](#)  
[setenvOTB](#), [28](#)  
[sf](#), [6](#)  
[sf2gvec](#), [28](#)