

Package ‘PlotTools’

July 21, 2025

Title Add Continuous Legends to Plots

Version 0.3.1

URL <https://ms609.github.io/PlotTools/>,
<https://github.com/ms609/PlotTools/>

BugReports <https://github.com/ms609/PlotTools/issues/>

License GPL (>= 2)

Depends R (>= 3.2.0)

Description Annotate plots with legends for continuous variables and colour spectra using the base graphics plotting tools; and manipulate irregular polygons.

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, sp, spelling, testthat (>= 3.0), vdiffr (>= 1.0.0),

Config/Needs/check rcmdcheck

Config/Needs/coverage covr

Config/Needs/metadata codemeta

Config/Needs/revdeps revdepcheck

Config/Needs/website pkgdown

Config/testthat/edition 3

Config/testthat/parallel false

Language en-GB

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.1

NeedsCompilation no

Author Martin R. Smith [aut, cre, cph] (ORCID:
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5660-1727>)

Maintainer Martin R. Smith <martin.smith@durham.ac.uk>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2024-09-03 11:00:07 UTC

Contents

Col2Hex	2
Polygon-Geometry	2
SpectrumLegend	4
Index	7

Col2Hex	<i>Colour to hexadecimal conversion</i>
---------	---

Description

Convert R colour to hexadecimal representation.

Usage

```
Col2Hex(col, alpha = FALSE)
```

Arguments

- col vector of any of the three kinds of R color specifications, i.e., either a color name (as listed by `colors()`), a hexadecimal string (see Details), or a positive integer i meaning `palette()[i]`.
- alpha logical value indicating whether the alpha channel (opacity) values should be returned.

Author(s)

Martin R. Smith (martin.smith@durham.ac.uk)

Examples

```
Col2Hex(1:3)
Col2Hex(c("peachpuff", "blue"), TRUE)
```

Polygon-Geometry	<i>Polygon geometry</i>
------------------	-------------------------

Description

Geometry functions for irregular polygons.

Usage

```
PolygonArea(x, y = NULL, positive = TRUE)
```

```
PolygonCentre(x, y = NULL)
```

```
PolygonCenter(x, y = NULL)
```

```
GrowPolygon(x, y = NULL, buffer = 0)
```

Arguments

<code>x, y</code>	Vectors containing the coordinates of the vertices of the polygon.
<code>positive</code>	If vertices are specified in an anticlockwise direction, the polygon will be treated as a hole, with a negative area, unless <code>positive</code> is set to <code>TRUE</code> . Vertices specified in a clockwise sequence always yield a positive area.
<code>buffer</code>	Numeric specifying distance by which to grow polygon.

Value

`PolygonArea()` returns the area of the specified polygon.

`PolygonCentre()` returns a single-row matrix containing the *x* and *y* coordinates of the geometric centre of the polygon.

`GrowPolygon()` returns coordinates of the vertices of polygon after moving each vertex `buffer` away from the polygon's centre.

Functions

- `PolygonArea()`: Calculate the area of an irregular polygon
- `PolygonCentre()`: Locate the centre of a polygon
- `GrowPolygon()`: Enlarge a polygon in all directions

Author(s)

Martin R. Smith (martin.smith@durham.ac.uk)

Examples

```
x <- c(-3, -1, 6, 3, -4)
y <- c(-2, 4, 1, 10, 9)
plot(x, y, frame.plot = FALSE)
polygon(x, y)
PolygonArea(x, y)
points(PolygonCentre(x, y), pch = 3, cex = 2)
polygon(GrowPolygon(x, y, 1), border = "darkgreen",
        xpd = NA # Allow drawing beyond plot border
)

# Negative values shrink the polygon
polygon(GrowPolygon(x, y, -1), border = "red")
```

SpectrumLegend

*Produce a legend for continuous gradient scales***Description**

Prints an annotated vertical bar coloured according to a continuous palette.

Usage

```
SpectrumLegend(
  x = "topright",
  ...,
  palette,
  legend,
  lty = 1,
  lwd = 4,
  bty = "o",
  adj = if (horiz) c(0.5, 0.5) else c(0, 0.5),
  horiz = FALSE,
  lend = "butt",
  cex = 1,
  seg.len = 1
)

SizeLegend(
  x = "topright",
  ...,
  legend = character(0),
  width = c(0, 1),
  palette = par("col"),
  scale = c("pch", "lwd"),
  lty = 0,
  lwd = 4,
  bty = "o",
  adj = if (horiz) c(0.5, 0.5) else c(0, 0.5),
  horiz = FALSE,
  lend = "butt",
  cex = 1,
  seg.len
)
```

Arguments

`x`, `horiz`, `adj`, `seg.len`, ...

Additional parameters to `legend()`.

`palette` Colour palette to depict. Specify either a vector of colours, or a function such that `palette(n)` returns a vector of n colours.

legend	Character vector with which to label points on palette. Note that, in a vertical legend, values will be printed from top down; use <code>rev()</code> to reverse the order.
lwd, lty, lend	Additional parameters to <code>segments()</code> , controlling line style. Use <code>lend = "butt"</code> (the default) if palette is semitransparent, to avoid artefacts.
bty	Character specifying the type of box to be drawn around the legend. The allowed values are "o" (the default) and "n".
cex	Character expansion factor relative to current <code>par("cex")</code> .
width	Vector of length two specifying width of legend bar at base and top.
scale	Character string specifying whether <code>width = 1</code> corresponds to: "pch", the size of a plotting symbol with <code>pch = 1</code> ; "lwd", the width of a line with <code>lwd = 1</code> .
col	Colour used for the width bar.

Details

This convenience function is not yet very customizable; do file a [GitHub issue](#) if you would value additional functionality.

Note that the `bg` parameter to specify the background colour for the legend box is not presently supported in vertical legends. For use in vertical legends, open a [GitHub issue](#).

Value

A list, returned invisibly, with components:

- `rect` A list with components:
 - `w`, `h`: positive numbers giving width and height of the legend's box.
 - `left`, `top`: x and y coordinates of the upper left corner of the box.
- `text`: A list with components `x`, `y`, numeric vectors of length `length(legend)`, giving the x and y coordinates of the legend's text(s).

Author(s)

Martin R. Smith (martin.smith@durham.ac.uk)

Examples

```
plot(0:1, 0:1, type = "n", frame.plot = FALSE,
     xlab = "x", ylab = "y")

SpectrumLegend("bottomright", legend = c("Bright", "Middle", "Dark"),
               palette = heat.colors(32L), lwd = 5,
               inset = 0.05, # Inset from plot margin
               title = "Brightness")
SpectrumLegend("topright", horiz = TRUE,
               legend = seq(1, 9, by = 2), palette = 1:8)
SizeLegend(
  "topleft", inset = 0.05, width = c(0, 2),
  title = "Width",
  legend = c("max", ".", ".", "min"),
```

```
palette = topo.colors, # Associate with a colour scale
y.intersp = 1.5 # Vertical space between labels (also moves title)
)
SizeLegend(
  "bottomleft", horiz = TRUE, width = c(4, 1),
  legend = c("Thick", "Thin"), palette = "darkred",
  inset = 0.06 # Make space for the bar.
              # A future release may calculate this automatically
)
```

Index

* **tiling functions**

Polygon-Geometry, [2](#)

Col2Hex, [2](#)

colors, [2](#)

GrowPolygon (Polygon-Geometry), [2](#)

legend(), [4](#)

palette, [2](#)

Polygon-Geometry, [2](#)

PolygonArea (Polygon-Geometry), [2](#)

PolygonCenter (Polygon-Geometry), [2](#)

PolygonCentre (Polygon-Geometry), [2](#)

rev(), [5](#)

segments(), [5](#)

SizeLegend (SpectrumLegend), [4](#)

SpectrumLegend, [4](#)