

# Package ‘forestr’

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**Type** Package

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**Title** Ecosystem and Canopy Structural Complexity Metrics from LiDAR

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**URL** <https://github.com/atkinsjeff/forestr>

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**Description** Provides a toolkit for calculating forest and canopy structural complexity metrics from terrestrial LiDAR (light detection and ranging). References: Atkins et al. 2018 <[doi:10.1111/2041-210X.13061](https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.13061)>; Hardiman et al. 2013 <[doi:10.3390/f4030537](https://doi.org/10.3390/f4030537)>; Parker et al. 2004 <[doi:10.1111/j.0021-8901.2004.00925.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.0021-8901.2004.00925.x)>.

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---

adjust_by_user	<i>Adjust by user height</i>
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---

**Description**

adjust\_by\_user adjusts data based on the user height to account for the laser's distance from the ground.

**Usage**

```
adjust_by_user(df, user_height)
```

**Arguments**

df	the data frame of raw pcl data
user_height	the height of the laser off the ground as mounted on the user in meters

**Details**

The function adjust\_by\_user simply adds the height of the user to the return distances in the data frame to estimate true height.

**Value**

a data frame adjusted by height

**Examples**

```
# Adjust raw data to account for user height as PCL is user-mounted and correction  
# gives actual distance from ground.  
  
pcl_adjusted <- adjust_by_user(pcl_coded, user_height = 1.05)
```

---

calc_enl	<i>Calculate rugosity and other higher level complexity metrics</i>
----------	---

---

**Description**

calc\_enl calculates the effective number of layers in a canopy.

**Usage**

```
calc_enl(m)
```

**Arguments**

m a data frame of VAI for x, z bins from

**Value**

the effective number of layers

**Examples**

```
# Calculates the effective number of layers
calc_enl(pcl_vai)
```

---

calc\_gap\_fraction *Calculate gap fraction*

---

**Description**

calc\_gap\_fraction produces clumping index based on gap fraction through the canopy.

**Usage**

```
calc_gap_fraction(m)
```

**Arguments**

m the matrix of bin hits calculated as density of LiDAR returns for each x column.

**Details**

This is a specific function that works using the adjusted matrix to calculate gap fraction through the canopy. This function also returns clumping index.

**Examples**

```
calc_gap_fraction(pcl_vai)
```

---

calc_intensity	<i>Intensity Statistics</i>
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---

**Description**

calc\_intensity calculates statistics from the intensity column of the PCL data

**Usage**

```
calc_intensity(df, filename)
```

**Arguments**

df	data frame of uncorrected PCL data
filename	name of file currently being processed

**Details**

The calc\_intensity function calculates statistics about the intensity data in the PCL data, including min, max, sd, mean, median.

**Value**

statistics on the intensity data

**Examples**

```
intensity_stats <- calc_intensity(pcl_adjusted, filename = "UVA")
```

---

calc_rugosity	<i>Calculate rugosity and other higher level complexity metrics</i>
---------------	---

---

**Description**

calc\_rugosity calculates canopy structural complexity metrics from PCL data and prints them to the screen.

**Usage**

```
calc_rugosity(df, m, filename)
```

**Arguments**

df is a LiDAR summary matrix data frame  
 m matrix of light adjusted vai values.  
 filename the name of the file currently being processed.

**Details**

This is a specific function calculates canopy rugosity and other metrics, including rumple, height metrics, etc.

**Value**

a series of metrics that describe canopy and ecosystem height, density, openness, cover, etc.

**Examples**

```
# Calculates metrics of canopy structural complexity.
calc_rugosity(pcl_summary, pcl_vai, filename = "")
```

---

calc_rumple	<i>Calculates rumple</i>
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---

**Description**

calc\_rumple calculates canopy rumple.

**Usage**

```
calc_rumple(df)
```

**Arguments**

df LiDAR summary matrix data frame

**Details**

This function uses the summary matrix created by the function `make_summary_matrix` to calculate canopy rumple, the relationship between outer canopy surface and the ground area.

**Value**

rumple for the canopy based on 2-D transect

**Examples**

```
calc_rumple(pcl_summary)
```

---

calc_tls_csc	<i>Calculates rumple</i>
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---

**Description**

calc\_tls\_csc calculates canopy structural complexity metrics from the tls vai matrix

**Usage**

```
calc_tls_csc(m, filename)
```

**Arguments**

m	matrix of vai data with mean leaf height column
filename	the name of the file being process0

**Details**

This is a specific function to calculate canopy structural complexity or CSC metrics from the VAI matrix imported in.

**Value**

csc metrics

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
calc_tls_csc(m)

## End(Not run)
```

---

calc_tls_mean_leaf_ht	<i>Process single PCL transects.</i>
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---

**Description**

calc\_tls\_mean\_leaf\_ht used in process\_tls to calculate mean leaf height from tls slife

**Usage**

```
calc_tls_mean_leaf_ht(m)
```

**Arguments**

m	the vai matrix
---	----------------

**Details**

This function derives mean leaf height from x, z vai from TLS data.

**Value**

adds columns to the matrix of height.bin

**Examples**

```
# with designated file
## Not run: process_pcl("pcl_data.csv", marker.spacing = 10, user_height = 1.05, max.vai = 8)
```

---

calc_vai	<i>Calculate vegetation area index (VAI) from normalized PCL data matrix</i>
----------	--

---

**Description**

calc\_vai calculates vegetation area index (VAI) from a normalized matrix of LiDAR data.

**Usage**

```
calc_vai(df, max.vai)
```

**Arguments**

df	data frame of pcl data that has been corrected for light extinction using the normalize_pcl function.
max.vai	the maximum value of column VAI. The default is 8. Should be a max value, not a mean.

**Value**

a matrix of vai by x, z in the canopy

**Examples**

```
pcl_vai <- calc_vai(pcl_norm, max.vai = 8)
```



---

`code_hits`*Code hits*

---

**Description**

`code_hits` classifies data values as canopy returns, sky returns, or data markers.

**Usage**

```
code_hits(df)
```

**Arguments**

`df` a raw set of pcl data

**Details**

The function `code_hits` accounts for the NAs that are in the return distance column which are actually the sky hits (i.e. when the lidar does not record a canopy hit).

**Examples**

```
# classify data values that have been imported using read_pcl
pcl_coded <- code_hits(pcl_data)
```

---

`csc_metrics`*Cover and sky fraction estimates*

---

**Description**

`csc_metrics` creates first-order canopy structural metrics that do not require normalization

**Usage**

```
csc_metrics(df, filename, transect.length)
```

**Arguments**

`df` data frame of uncorrected PCL data  
`filename` name of file currently being processed  
`transect.length` the length of the transect

**Details**

The `csc_metrics` function processes uncorrected PCL data to generate canopy structural complexity (CSC) metrics that do not require normalization (i.e. correction for light saturation based on Beer-Lambert Law). These metrics include: mean return height of raw data, sd of raw canopy height returns, maximum measured canopy height, scan density (the average no. of LiDAR returns per linear meter), and both openness and cover fraction which are used for gap fraction calculations.

**Value**

slew of cover and sky fraction metrics

**Examples**

```
csc.metrics <- csc_metrics(pcl_adjusted, filename = "UVA", transect.length = 10)
```

---

`get_transect_length` *Get transect length of PCL transect (in meters)*

---

**Description**

`get_transect_length` acquires the length of a transect based on a known marker spacing of the data markers stored in pcl data.

**Usage**

```
get_transect_length(df, marker.spacing)
```

**Arguments**

`df` data frame of unprocessed PCL data  
`marker.spacing` distance between transect markers, typically 5 or 10 m

**Details**

Returns the transect length of a given PCL file given a known marker spacing.

**Value**

length of transect

**Examples**

```
# Get the length of the transect given a known spacing between data markers  
transect.length <- get_transect_length(pcl_data, marker.spacing = 10)
```

---

make_matrix	<i>Make PCL matrix for higher level complexity measures</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

make\_matrix produces a matrix of, x, z values in coordinate space with the number and type of each LiDAR return in each x, z bin combination

**Usage**

```
make_matrix(df)
```

**Arguments**

df                    data frame of PCL data that has been processed with split\_transect\_from\_pcl

**Details**

The make\_matrix function munges data in to a data frame of x, z bins with the number of canopy hits located in each bin.

**Value**

sorted matrix of LiDAR returns for each x, z position

**Examples**

```
pcl_matrix <- make_matrix(pcl_split)
```

---

make_matrix_part_one	<i>Make PCL matrix part one</i>
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---

**Description**

make\_matrix\_part\_one produces a matrix of, x, z values in coordinate space with the number and type of each LiDAR return in each x, z bin combination

**Usage**

```
make_matrix_part_one(df)
```

**Arguments**

df                    data frame of PCL data that has been processed with

**Value**

sorted matrix of LiDAR returns for each x, z position

---

make\_matrix\_part\_two *Make PCL matrix part two*

---

**Description**

make\_matrix\_part\_two produces a matrix of x, z values in coordinate space with the number and type of each LiDAR return in each x, z bin combination

**Usage**

```
make_matrix_part_two(df)
```

**Arguments**

df data frame of PCL data that has been processed with

**Value**

sorted matrix of LiDAR returns for each x, z position

---

make\_summary\_matrix *Creates summary matrix*

---

**Description**

make\_summary\_matrix creates a summary matrix of data through data wrangling the VAI data frame.

**Usage**

```
make_summary_matrix(df, m)
```

**Arguments**

df sorted data frame of processed PCL data  
 m matrix of PCL hit density with x and z coordinates

**Details**

This makes a dataframe that is as long as a transect is. If the transect is 40 m, this data frame has 40 rows. As input, make\_summary\_matrix requires a data frame of values from split\_transects\_from\_pcl first, and second, the data frame of VAI from the function calc\_vai.

#' This function allows you to express your love of cats.

**Value**

a matrix of summary stats by each x and z coordinate position

**Examples**

```
pcl_summary <- make_summary_matrix(pcl_split, pcl_vai)
```

---

normalize_pcl	<i>Normalize PCL data based on light saturation and attenuation</i>
---------------	---

---

**Description**

normalize\_pcl normalizes a PCL matrix for occlusion.

**Usage**

```
normalize_pcl(df)
```

**Arguments**

df                    data frame of pcl hit density processed from make\_matrix

**Details**

This function corrects saturated columns of LiDAR data for occlusion based on assumptions from the Beer-Lambert Law.

**Value**

a data frame of PCL hit density corrected for light saturation and attenuation based on Beer's Law

**Examples**

```
pcl_norm <- normalize_pcl(pcl_matrix)
```

---

osbs	<i>PCL transect from Ordway-Swisher Biological Station, Florida, US.</i>
------	--

---

**Description**

A dataset that consists of one 40 m transect taken in a longleaf pine-oak savanna in North-central Florida. Data collected April, 2016 by J. Atkins and R. Fahey.

**Usage**

osbs

**Format**

A data frame with 10506 rows:

**index** index of raw data—position along transect  
**return\_distance** raw, uncorrected LiDAR return distances from laser  
**intensity** intensity values as recorded by LiDAR system

**Source**

<http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

pcl_adjusted	<i>a data frame LiDAR returns that have been split to x and z position and coded and adjusted for user height</i>
--------------	---

---

**Description**

Derived from data collected at the University of Virginia Data collected August, 2016 by J. Atkins. Derived from the calc\_vai function

**Usage**

pcl\_adjusted

**Format**

A data frame with 14576 rows:

**index** index of raw data—position along transect  
**return\_distance** raw, uncorrected LiDAR return distances from laser  
**intensity** intensity values as recorded by LiDAR system  
**sky\_hit** lidar return that does not hit the canopy

**can\_hit** lidar return that hits the canopy

**marker** negative value that indicates marker

@source <http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

pcl_coded	<i>a data frame LiDAR returns that have been split to x and z position and coded</i>
-----------	--

---

### Description

Derived from data collected at the University of Virginia Data collected August, 2016 by J. Atkins.  
Dervied from the calc\_vai function

### Usage

```
pcl_coded
```

### Format

A data frame with 14576 rows:

**index** index of raw data–position along transect

**return\_distance** raw, uncorrected LiDAR return distances from laser

**intensity** intensity values as recorded by LiDAR system

**sky\_hit** lidar return that does not hit the canopy

**can\_hit** lidar return that hits the canopy

**marker** negative value that indicates marker

@source <http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

pcl_data	<i>PCL transect from the University of Virginia</i>
----------	---

---

### Description

Derived from data collected at the University of Virginia Data collected August, 2016 by J. Atkins.  
Dervied from the calc\_vai function

### Usage

```
pcl_data
```

### Format

An object of class `data.frame` with 14576 rows and 3 columns.

**Details**

```
#' @format A data frame with 14576rows:
```

**index** index of raw data—position along transect

**return\_distance** raw, uncorrected LiDAR return distances from laser

**intensity** intensity values as recorded by LiDAR system

**Source**

<http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

pcl\_diagnostic\_plot    *PCL diagnostic plot*

---

**Description**

pcl\_diagnostic\_plot this function provides a diagnostic view of raw PCL data

**Usage**

```
pcl_diagnostic_plot(df, filename)
```

**Arguments**

df	data frame of unprocessed PCL data
filename	name of file currently being processed

**Details**

This function provides a graphic view of raw PCL data to check for equal data spacing and marker spacing

**Value**

a plot of PCL data showing marker spacing

**Examples**

```
# using the Ordway-Swisher Data set  
pcl_diagnostic_plot(osbs)
```



---

pcl\_matrix                      *a LiDAR hit density by x, z position*

---

### Description

Derived from data collected at the University of Virginia Data collected August, 2016 by J. Atkins.  
Dervied from the calc\_vai function

### Usage

pcl\_matrix

### Format

A data frame with 1120 rows:

**xbin** x-bin position

**zbin** z-bin position

**bin.hits** number of LiDAR returns at each x- and z- bin

**sky.hits** total numer of sky hits per x column

**can.hits** total numer of canopy hits per x column

**lidar.pulses** no. of lidar pulses emitted per column

**Freq** no idea

@source <http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

pcl\_norm                      *a data frame of normalized LiDAR return density*

---

### Description

Derived from data collected at the University of Virginia Data collected August, 2016 by J. Atkins.  
Dervied from the calc\_vai function

### Usage

pcl\_norm

**Format**

A data frame with 1120 rows:

**.id** column numbering  
**xbin** x-bin position  
**zbin** z-bin position  
**bin.hits** number of LiDAR returns at each x- and z- bin  
**sky.hits** total number of sky hits per x column  
**can.hits** total number of canopy hits per x column  
**lidar.pulses** no. of lidar pulses emitted per column  
**Freq** no idea  
**hit.count** total number of hits distributed through canopy  
**phi** percent of saturation  
**dee** percent of returns distributed  
**x.counter** counting variable  
**sum.dee** distributed proportion  
**fee** coefficient

**Source**

<http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

pcl\_split

*a data frame LiDAR returns that have been split to x and z position*

---

**Description**

Derived from data collected at the University of Virginia Data collected August, 2016 by J. Atkins.  
 Derived from the calc\_vai function

**Usage**

pcl\_split

**Format**

A data frame with 13982 rows:

**index** index of raw data—position along transect  
**return\_distance** raw, uncorrected LiDAR return distances from laser  
**intensity** intensity values as recorded by LiDAR system  
**sky\_hit** lidar return that does not hit the canopy

**can\_hit** lidar return that hits the canopy  
**marker** negative value that indicates marker  
**seg\_num** intermediate to get x position  
**chunk\_num** intermediate to get x position  
**xbin** position along horizontal axis  
**zbin** position along vertical axis

### Source

<http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

pcl_summary	<i>summary matrix</i>
-------------	-----------------------

---

### Description

Derived from data collected at the University of Virginia Data collected August, 2016 by J. Atkins.  
Derived from the calc\_vai function

### Usage

pcl\_summary

### Format

A data frame with 40 rows:

**xbin** x-bin position  
**mean.ht** mean height  
**sd.ht** standard deviation of mean leaf height  
**max.ht** max measured height  
**max.vai** highest measured max VAI  
**sum.vai** total VAI for the column  
**sd.vai** standard deviation of VAI  
**vai.z.sum** density adjusted height  
**max.vai.z** height of peak VAI  
**height.bin** mean leaf height

### Source

<http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

`pcl_vai`*a data frame of vegetation area index (VAI)*

---

**Description**

Derived from data collected at the University of Virginia Data collected August, 2016 by J. Atkins.  
Derived from the `calc_vai` function

**Usage**`pcl_vai`**Format**

A data frame with 1120 rows:

**.id** column numbering

**xbin** x-bin position

**zbin** z-bin position

**bin.hits** number of LiDAR returns at each x- and z- bin

**sky.hits** total number of sky hits per x column

**can.hits** total number of canopy hits per x column

**lidar.pulses** no. of lidar pulses emitted per column

**Freq** no idea

**hit.count** total number of hits distributed through canopy

**phi** percent of saturation

**dee** percent of returns distributed

**x.counter** counting variable

**sum.dee** distributed proportion

**fee** coefficient

**cvr** cover proportion

**olai** max LAI or VAI number

**vai** calculated VAI

**Source**

<http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

plot_hit_grid	<i>Plots LiDAR hit grids of VAI</i>
---------------	-------------------------------------

---

**Description**

plot\_hit\_grid produces a LiDAR hit grid plot

**Usage**

```
plot_hit_grid(m, filename, transect.length, max.ht, max.vai)
```

**Arguments**

m	matrix of light adjusted vai values.
filename	the name of the file currently being processed.
transect.length	the length of the transect used to create the x-axis
max.ht	the maximum measured height used to create the y-axis
max.vai	the maximum density of VAI, default = 8

**Value**

a hit gride of VAI

**Examples**

```
# Calculates metrics of canopy structural complexity.
plot_hit_grid(pcl_vai, filename = "UVA LiDAR data", transect.length = 40,
max.ht = 30, max.vai = 8)
```

---

plot_pavd	<i>Graphs Plant Area Volume Density Profiles</i>
-----------	--

---

**Description**

plot\_pavd produces a PAVD plot from matrix data

**Usage**

```
plot_pavd(m, filename, plot.file.path.pavd, hist = FALSE, save_output = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

m	matrix of light adjusted vai values.
filename	the name of the file currently being processed.
plot.file.path.pavd	path of plot file to be written, inherited from process_pcl or process_multi_pcl
hist	logical input to include histogram of VAI, if TRUE it is included, if FALSE, it is not.
save_output	if TRUE it saves the plot, if false it just runs

**Details**

This function is a nested function inside of process\_pcl. It could be run independently using the summary\_matrix.csv output files created from running process\_pcl as well.

**Value**

plant area volume density plots

**See Also**

[plot\\_hit\\_grid](#)

**Examples**

```
# Calculates metrics of canopy structural complexity.
plot_pavd(pcl_vai, filename = "pcl_test", hist = FALSE, save_output = FALSE)
plot_pavd(pcl_vai, filename = "pcl_test", hist = TRUE, save_output = FALSE)
```

---

process\_multi\_pcl      *Process multiple PCL transects.*

---

**Description**

process\_multi\_pcl imports and processes multiple PCL transect.

**Usage**

```
process_multi_pcl(
  data_dir,
  user_height,
  marker.spacing,
  max.vai,
  pavd = FALSE,
  hist = FALSE,
  save_output = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

data_dir	directory where PCL .csv files are stored
user_height	height of laser from ground based on user in meters
marker.spacing	space between markers in the PCL data, in meters
max.vai	the maximum value of column VAI. The default is 8. Should be a max value, not a mean.
pavd	logical input to include Plant Area Volume Density Plot from [plot_pavd], if TRUE it is included, if FALSE, it is not.
hist	logical input to include histogram of VAI with PAVD plot, if TRUE it is included, if FALSE, it is not.
save_output	needs to be set to true, or else you are just going to get a lot of data on the screen

**Details**

This is a specific function that works using the input of a data directory of .csv files where the function cycles through the files there and processes multiple files, producing the same output files described in process\_pcl

**Value**

writes the hit matrix, summary matrix, and output variables to csv in an output folder, along with hit grid plot

**See Also**

[process\\_pcl](#)

**Examples**

```
# This function works on a directory of raw PCL data
## Not run: data_directory <- "./data/PCL_transects/" #data directory containing PCL transects
process_multi_pcl(data_directory, user_height = 1.05, marker.spacing = 10,
max.vai = 8, pavd = FALSE, hist = FALSE, save_output = FALSE)

process_multi_pcl("./data/PCL_transects/", user_height = 1.05, marker.spacing = 10,
max.vai = 8, pavd = FALSE, hist = FALSE, save_output = FALSE)

## End(Not run)
```

---

process_pcl	<i>Process single PCL transects.</i>
-------------	--------------------------------------

---

### Description

process\_pcl imports and processes a single PCL transect.

### Usage

```
process_pcl(
  f,
  user_height,
  marker.spacing,
  max.vai,
  pavd = FALSE,
  hist = FALSE,
  save_output = TRUE
)
```

### Arguments

f	the name of the filename to input <character> or a data frame <data frame>.
user_height	the height of the laser off the ground as mounted on the user in meters. default is 1 m
marker.spacing	distance between markers, defaults is 10 m
max.vai	the maximum value of column VAI. The default is 8. Should be a max value, not a mean.
pavd	logical input to include Plant Area Volume Density Plot from plot_pavd, if TRUE it is included, if FALSE, it is not.
hist	logical input to include histogram of VAI with PAVD plot, if TRUE it is included, if FALSE, it is not.
save_output	the name of the output folder where to write all the output files.

### Details

This function imports raw pcl data or existing data frames of pcl data and writes all data and analysis to a series of .csv files in an output directory (output) keeping nothing in the workspace.

process\_pcl uses a workflow that cuts the data into 1 meter segments with z and x positions in coordinate space where x refers to distance along the ground and z refers to distance above the ground. Data are normalized based on light extinction assumptions from the Beer-Lambert Law to account for light saturation. Data are then summarized and metrics of canopy structure complexity are calculated.

process\_pcl will write multiple output files to disk in an output directory that process\_pcl creates within the work directing. These files include:



1. an output variables file that contains a list of CSC variables and is written by the subfunction `write_pcl_to_csv`
2. a summary matrix, that includes detailed information on each vertical column of LiDAR data written by the subfunction `write_summary_matrix_to_csv`
3. a hit matrix, which is a matrix of VAI at each x and z position, written by the subfunction `write_hit_matrix_to_pcl`
4. a hit grid, which is a graphical representation of VAI along the x and z coordinate space.
5. optionally, plant area/volume density profiles can be created by including `pavd = TRUE` that include an additional histogram with the optional `hist = TRUE` in the `process_pcl` call.

### Value

writes the hit matrix, summary matrix, and output variables to csv in an output folder, along with hit grid plot

### See Also

[process\\_multi\\_pcl](#)

### Examples

```
# Run process complete PCL transect without storing to disk
uva.pcl <- system.file("extdata", "UVAX_A4_01W.csv", package = "forestr")

process_pcl(uva.pcl, marker.spacing = 10, user_height = 1.05,
max.vai = 8, pavd = FALSE, hist = FALSE, save_output = FALSE)

# with data frame
process_pcl(osbs, marker.spacing = 10, user_height = 1.05,
max.vai = 8, pavd = FALSE, hist = FALSE, save_output = FALSE)
```

---

process\_tls

*Process single PCL transects.*

---

### Description

`process_tls` imports and processes a slice from a voxelated TLS scan.

### Usage

```
process_tls(f, slice, pavd = FALSE, hist = FALSE, save_output = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

`f` the name of the filename to input <character> or a data frame <data frame>.

`slice` the number of the transect to use from xyz tls data

pavd	logical input to include Plant Area Volume Density Plot from plot_pavd, if TRUE it is included, if FALSE, it is not.
hist	logical input to include histogram of VAI with PAVD plot, if TRUE it is included, if FALSE, it is not.
save_output	needs to be set to true, or else you are just going to get a lot of data on the screen

### Details

This function takes as input a four column .CSV file or data frame of x, y, z, and VAI (Vegetation Area Index) derived from 3-D (TLS) LiDAR data. Currently, this function only analyzes a single slice from the inputted TLS data set. VAI is calculated externally by the user using user-determined methodology.

The process\_tls function will write multiple output files to disk in an (output) directory that process\_tls creates within the work directing. These files include:

1. an output variables file that contains a list of CSC variables and is written by the subfunction write\_pcl\_to\_csv
2. a summary matrix, that includes detailed information on each vertical column of Lidar data written by the subfunction write\_summary\_matrix\_to\_csv
3. a hit matrix, which is a matrix of VAI at each x and z position, written by the subfunction write\_hit\_matrix\_to\_pcl
4. a hit grid, which is a graphical representation of VAI along the x and z coordinate space. 5. optionally, plant area/volume density profiles can be created by including pavd = TRUE that include an additional histogram with the optional hist = TRUE in the process\_pcl call.

### Value

writes the hit matrix, summary matrix, and output variables to csv in an output folder, along with hit grid plot

### See Also

[process\\_pcl](#)

### Examples

```
# with designated file
uva.tls<- system.file("extdata", "UVAX_A4_01_tls.csv", package = "forestr")

process_tls(uva.tls, slice = 5, pavd = FALSE, hist = FALSE, save_output = FALSE)
```

---

read_pcl	<i>read_pcl imports PCL or portable canopy LiDAR files into the workspace and formats them.</i>
----------	---

---

**Description**

This function specifically reads in PCL files that are in .csv format, standard format for that data type.

**Usage**

```
read_pcl(f)
```

**Arguments**

f                      name of file currently being processed

**See Also**

[process\\_pcl](#) [process\\_multi\\_pcl](#)

**Examples**

```
# Link to raw PCL data, in .csv form.
uva_pcl <- system.file("extdata", "UVAX_A4_01W.csv", package = "forestr")

# Import PCL data to the workspace
pcl_data <- read_pcl(uva_pcl)
```

---

read_pcl_multi	<i>read_pcl_multi imports PCL or portable canopy LiDAR files into the workspace and formats them.</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

This function specifically reads in PCL files that are in .csv format, standard format for that data type.

**Usage**

```
read_pcl_multi(data_directory, filename)
```

## Arguments

`data_directory` directory where files are stored

`filename` name of file to be imported

Zero-length vectors have sum 0 by definition. See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Empty\\_sum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Empty_sum) for more details.

## Examples

```
## Not run:  
# This function runs internally right now.  
read_pcl_multi(data_directory, filename)  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

red_pine	<i>PCL transect from a red pine plantation in Northern Michigan, US.</i>
----------	--

---

## Description

A dataset that consists of one 40 m transect taken in a red pine plantations in Northern Michigan. Data collected July, 2017 by J. Atkins.

## Usage

```
red_pine
```

## Format

A data frame with 17559 rows:

**index** index of raw data—position along transect

**return\_distance** raw, uncorrected LiDAR return distances from laser

**intensity** intensity values as recorded by LiDAR system

## Source

<http://atkinsjeff.github.io>

---

 split\_transects\_from\_pcl

*Split transects from PCL*


---

### Description

split\_transects\_from\_pcl places data values into x-bins (x-coordinates and) and z-bins (z-coordinates)

### Usage

```
split_transects_from_pcl(
  pcl_data,
  transect.length,
  marker.spacing,
  DEBUG = FALSE,
  data_dir,
  output_file_name
)
```

### Arguments

pcl_data	data frame of unprocessed PCL data.
transect.length	total transect length. Default value is 40 meters.
marker.spacing	distance between markers in meters within the PCL data. Default value is 10 m.
DEBUG	check to see order of final output. Default is FALSE.
data_dir	directory where PCL data .csv are stored if value is used.
output_file_name	old code relic that doesn't do much.

### Details

Function to add two additional columns to the pcl dataset, one for the segment (which should only be from 1-4) and is designated by a -99999999 value in the return\_distance column The only required parameters are the data frame of pcl data, with the length of transect and the marker spacing.

### Examples

```
# Function that has the algorithm that splits the raw data into defined, equidistant x-bins.
pcl_split <- split_transects_from_pcl(pcl_adjusted,
  transect.length = 40, marker.spacing = 10)
```

---

`write_hit_matrix_to_csv`*Writes hit matrix to csv for further analysis*

---

**Description**

`write_hit_matrix_to_csv` writes hit matrix to .csv for further analysis

**Usage**

```
write_hit_matrix_to_csv(m, outputname, output_directory)
```

**Arguments**

<code>m</code>	matrix of VAI with z and x coordinates
<code>outputname</code>	name of file currently being processed
<code>output_directory</code>	directory where output goes

**Details**

This is a specific sub-function that writes the output variables to disk in .csv format and runs within the functions `process_pcl`, `process_multi_pcl`, and `proces_tls`.

**See Also**

[process\\_pcl](#) [write\\_pcl\\_to\\_csv](#) [write\\_summary\\_matrix\\_to\\_csv](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
# This function runs internally.  
write_hit_matrix_to_csv(m, outputname, output_directory)  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

`write_pcl_to_csv`*Writes csc metrics and output variables to .csv*

---

**Description**

`write_pcl_to_csv` writes csc metrics and variables to .csv format

**Usage**

```
write_pcl_to_csv(output.variables, outputname, output_directory)
```

**Arguments**

output\_variables      list of concatenated output variables  
outputname            name of file currently being processed  
output\_directory      directory where output goes

**Details**

This is a specific function that writes the output variables to disk in .csv format and runs within the functions process\_pcl, process\_multi\_pcl, and proces\_tls.

**See Also**

[process\\_pcl](#) [write\\_summary\\_matrix\\_to\\_csv](#) [write\\_hit\\_matrix\\_to\\_csv](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
write_pcl_to_csv(output_variables, outputname, output_directory)

## End(Not run)
```

---

```
write_summary_matrix_to_csv
      Writes csc metrics and output variables to .csv
```

---

**Description**

write\_summary\_matrix\_to\_csv writes summary matrix to .csv format

**Usage**

```
write_summary_matrix_to_csv(m, outputname, output_directory)
```

**Arguments**

m                      summary matrix  
outputname            name of file currently being processed  
output\_directory      directory where output goes

**Details**

This is a specific subfunction that writes the summary matrix to disk in .csv format and runs within the functions process\_pcl, process\_multi\_pcl, and proces\_tls.

**See Also**

[write\\_pcl\\_to\\_csv](#) [write\\_hit\\_matrix\\_to\\_csv](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
write_summary_matrix_to_csv()  
  
## End(Not run)
```



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