

# Package ‘hemispheR’

April 7, 2025

**Title** Processing Hemispherical Canopy Images  
**Version** 1.1.6  
**Description** Import and classify canopy fish-eye images, estimate angular gap fraction and derive canopy attributes like leaf area index and openness. Additional information is provided in the study by Chianucci F., Macek M. (2023) <[doi:10.1016/j.agrformet.2023.109470](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agrformet.2023.109470)>.  
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| binarize_fisheye | <i>Compute the threshold of a single-channel fisheye image, and return a binary fisheye image of canopy (0) and gap (1) pixels</i> |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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## Description

The function calculates a single threshold of a single-channel raster image using the `autothresholdr::auto_thresh()` functionality. The single thresholding is also applied at sub-image level if `zonal=TRUE`. The available methods are described at <https://imagej.net/plugins/auto-threshold>. The thresholding value is then used to make a binary raster image of canopy (0) and gap (1) pixels.

## Usage

```
binarize_fisheye(
  img,
  method = "Otsu",
  zonal = FALSE,
  manual = NULL,
  display = FALSE,
  export = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>img</code>     | SpatRaster. A single layer fisheye image imported by <code>import_fisheye()</code> using the <code>terra::rast()</code> functionality.                                                                                                                   |
| <code>method</code>  | Character. The method used to threshold the image, using the <code>autothresholdr::auto_thresh()</code> function. For details, see <a href="https://imagej.net/plugins/auto-threshold">https://imagej.net/plugins/auto-threshold</a> . Default = 'Otsu'. |
| <code>zonal</code>   | Logical. If is set to TRUE, it divides the images in four (N, W, S, E) regions and classify each region separately. Useful in case of uneven illumination condition in the image.                                                                        |
| <code>manual</code>  | Numeric. It uses a manual thresholding instead of automatic one. If selected, it overrides automatic thresholding.                                                                                                                                       |
| <code>display</code> | Logical. If is set to TRUE, it plots the classified binary image. Default to FALSE.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <code>export</code>  | Logical. If is set to TRUE, it saves the binary fisheye image as tif file. Default to FALSE.                                                                                                                                                             |

## Value

A binary single-layer image (SpatRaster)

## See Also

<https://imagej.net/plugins/auto-threshold>

**Examples**

```

c.im<-system.file('extdata/circular_coolpix4500+FC-E8_chestnut.jpg',package='hemispher')

c.im |>
import_fisheye(circ.mask=camera_fisheye('Coolpix4500+FC-E8')) |>
  binarize_fisheye(display=TRUE)

#zonal thresholding:
c.im |>
import_fisheye(circ.mask=camera_fisheye('Coolpix4500+FC-E8')) |>
  binarize_fisheye(zonal=TRUE,display=TRUE)

#manual thresholding:
c.im |>
import_fisheye(circ.mask=camera_fisheye('Coolpix4500+FC-E8')) |>
  binarize_fisheye(manual=55,display=TRUE)

```

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|                |                                                                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| camera_fisheye | <i>Provide circular mask parameters from known camera+fisheye lens models</i> |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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**Description**

Provide circular mask parameters from known camera+fisheye lens models

**Usage**

```
camera_fisheye(model = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

model                      Character. An input camera+lens model

**Value**

A list of three parameters (xc, yc, rc) of the circular mask

**Examples**

```

#available camera+lenses:
list.cameras

camera_fisheye(model='Coolpix4500+FC-E8')

```

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|                |                                                                                               |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| canopy_fisheye | <i>Calculate canopy attributes from angular gap fraction data derived from fisheye images</i> |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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## Description

The function calculate canopy attributes from angular distribution of gap fraction. It returns both the effective ( $L_e$ ) and actual ( $L$ ) leaf area index following the Miller theorem (1967). The Lang and Xiang (1986) clumping index  $LX$  is calculated as the ratio of  $L_e$  to  $L$ ; two additional clumping indices ( $LXG1$ ,  $LXG2$ ) are derived from ordered weighted average gap fraction as in Chianucci et al. (2019). The mean leaf angle (MTA) and the ellipsoidal  $x$  are derived from Norman and Campbell (1989). Canopy openness is also provided as weighted diffuse non-interceptance (DIFN), following the LAI-2200 manual (Li-Cor Inc., Nebraska US).

## Usage

```
canopy_fisheye(rdfw)
```

## Arguments

|                   |                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>rdfw</code> | Dataframe. The input dataframe generated from <code>gapfrac_fisheye()</code> , which contains gap fraction for zenith and azimuth bins. |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Value

A dataframe of canopy attributes from classified fisheye images.

## See Also

Chianucci F., Zou J., Leng P., Zhuang Y., Ferrara C. 2019. A new method to estimate clumping index integrating gap fraction averaging with the analysis of gap size distribution. Canadian Journal of Forest Research 49 [doi:10.1139/cjfr20180213](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfr20180213)

LAI-2200C Plant Canopy Analyzer - Instruction Manuals. Licor.

Lang A.R.G., Xiang Y. 1986. Estimation of leaf area index from transmission of direct sunlight in discontinuous canopies. Agricultural and Forest Meteorology 37, 228-243. [doi:10.1016/0168-1923\(86\)90033X](https://doi.org/10.1016/0168-1923(86)90033X)

Miller J.B. 1967. A formula for average foliage density. Australian Journal of Botany 15(1) 141 - 144. [doi:10.1071/BT9670141](https://doi.org/10.1071/BT9670141) .

Norman J.M., Campbell G.S. 1986. Canopy structure. In: Plant Physiological Ecology, pp. 301-325 [doi:10.1007/9789400922211\\_14](https://doi.org/10.1007/9789400922211_14).

## Examples

```
c.im<-system.file('extdata/circular_coolpix4500+FC-E8_chestnut.jpg',package='hemispher')
c.im |>
  import_fisheye(circ.mask=camera_fisheye('Coolpix4500+FC-E8')) |>
  binarize_fisheye() |>
  gapfrac_fisheye(lens='FC-E8',nrings=7,nseg=8,endVZA=70) |>
  canopy_fisheye()

#Zenith rings similar to LAI-2000/2200:
c.im |>
  import_fisheye(circ.mask=camera_fisheye('Coolpix4500+FC-E8')) |>
  binarize_fisheye() |>
  gapfrac_fisheye(lens='FC-E8',nrings=5,nseg=8,endVZA=75) |>
  canopy_fisheye()

#The hinge angle method close to 1 radian (57 degree):
c.im |>
  import_fisheye(circ.mask=camera_fisheye('Coolpix4500+FC-E8')) |>
  binarize_fisheye() |>
  gapfrac_fisheye(lens='FC-E8',nrings=1,nseg=8,startVZA=55,endVZA=60) |>
  canopy_fisheye()
```

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gapfrac\_fisheye

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*Derive angular gap fraction from a classified fisheye image*


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## Description

The function calculates the gap fraction for a number of zenith annuli (rings) and azimuth sectors (segments). A list of lens is available for correcting for lens distortion. Type 'list.lenses'.

## Usage

```
gapfrac_fisheye(
  img.bw,
  maxVZA = 90,
  lens = "equidistant",
  startVZA = 0,
  endVZA = 70,
  nrings = 7,
  nseg = 8,
  message = FALSE,
  display = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

|          |                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| img.bw   | SpatLayer. A binary, single-layer fisheye image generated from <code>binarize_fisheye()</code> .                                                                |
| maxVZA   | Numeric. The maximum Zenith angle (in degrees) corresponding to the image radius. Default= 90.                                                                  |
| lens     | Character. The lens type for fisheye-lens correction. A list of lenses is available by typing <code>list.lenses</code> . If missing, it is assumed equidistant. |
| startVZA | Numeric. The minimum Zenith angle (in degrees) considered in the analysis. Default is 0.                                                                        |
| endVZA   | Numeric. The maximum Zenith angle (in degrees) considered in the analysis. Default is 70.                                                                       |
| nrings   | Numeric. The number of equiangular zenith rings considered in the analysis. Default is 7.                                                                       |
| nseg     | Numeric. The number of azimuth segments considered in the analysis. Default is 8.                                                                               |
| message  | Logical. If set to TRUE, it reports the circular mask used in the analysis.                                                                                     |
| display  | Logical. If set to TRUE, it displays the zenith rings and azimuth segments overlaid on the fisheye image.                                                       |

**Value**

A dataframe of gap fraction (GF) for zenith rings (rows) and azimuth segments (columns).

**Author(s)**

Francesco Chianucci

**See Also**

Lens correction functions have been retrieved from the following sources:

Pekin and Macfarlane 2009: [doi:10.3390/rs1041298](https://doi.org/10.3390/rs1041298)

Paul Bourke: <http://www.paulbourke.net/dome/fisheycorrect/>

Hemisfer: <https://www.schleppi.ch/patrick/hemisfer/index.php>

**Examples**

```
c.im<-system.file('extdata/circular_coolpix4500+FC-E8_chestnut.jpg',package='hemispheR')

#List of lenses for fisheye projection correction:
list.lenses

#Zenith rings similar to LAI-2000/2200:
c.im |>
import_fisheye(circ.mask=camera_fisheye('Coolpix4500+FC-E8')) |>
  binarize_fisheye() |>
  gapfrac_fisheye(lens='FC-E8',nrings=5,nseg=8,endVZA=75,display=TRUE)
```

```
#The hinge angle method close to 1 radian (57):
c.im |>
import_fisheye(circ.mask=camera_fisheye('Coolpix4500+FC-E8')) |>
  binarize_fisheye() |>
  gapfrac_fisheye(lens='FC-E8',nrings=1,nseg=8,startVZA=55,endVZA=60,display=TRUE)
```

---

|                |                                                                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| import_fisheye | <i>Import a fisheye image as a single channel raster, and apply a circular mask</i> |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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## Description

This function imports fisheye images using `terra::rast()` functionality, by selecting a single channel, or a combination of channels. The default option (blue channel) is generally preferred for canopy image analysis as it enables high contrast between canopy and sky pixels, which ease image thresholding. A circular mask is then applied to mask outside pixel in case of circular fisheye images. It can be manually inserted, or retrieved using the `camera_fisheye()` function. Alternatively, it is automatically calculated. Additional functions include a gamma correction and a contrast stretch.

## Usage

```
import_fisheye(
  filename,
  channel = 3,
  circ.mask = NULL,
  circular = TRUE,
  gamma = 2.2,
  stretch = FALSE,
  display = FALSE,
  message = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| filename  | Character. The input image filename.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| channel   | Character. Either the band number corresponding to an image channel or a mixing channel method (Available options are: 'first','GLA','Luma','2BG','BtoRG','B','GEI','RGB'). Default is 3 (Blue channel).                                                                                 |
| circ.mask | List. The circular mask parameters (xc,yc,rc) to be applied to the image. It can be created from a list of available cameras using the <code>camera_fisheye()</code> function. If omitted, it is created automatically in circular images, and corresponds to half the lower image side. |
| circular  | Logical. It indicates if the fisheye image is circular (circular=TRUE) or full-frame (circular=FALSE) type. This influences the way the radius is calculated if circ.mask is not inserted. Default is circular.                                                                          |

|         |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| gamma   | Numeric. It indicates the input gamma, which is then back-corrected to unity. Default is 2.2 (typical in jpeg images). If no gamma is required, just set gamma=1. |
| stretch | Logical. It indicates if a linear stretch should be applied to enhance contrast. Default FALSE.                                                                   |
| display | Logical. If is set to TRUE, it plots the image along with the applied mask and a circle radius. Default to FALSE.                                                 |
| message | Logical. If is set to TRUE, it prints the mask used for importing the image. Default to TRUE.                                                                     |

### Value

A single-channel image (SpatRaster).

### Examples

```
c.im<-system.file('extdata/circular_coolpix4500+FC-E8_chestnut.jpg',package='hemispher')

#set the circular mask automatically:
import_fisheye(c.im,circ.mask=list(xc=1136,yc=850,rc=754),channel='B',gamma=2.2,display=TRUE)

#list of cameras for circular mask:
list.cameras

#set the circular mask using camera_fisheye():
import_fisheye(c.im,circ.mask=camera_fisheye('Coolpix4500+FC-E8'), gamma=2.2)

#automatic calculating circular mask:
import_fisheye(c.im,channel='B',gamma=2.2,display=TRUE)

#import a fullframe image:
f.im<-system.file('extdata/fullframe_D90_Nikkor-10.5_beech.jpg',package='hemispher')
import_fisheye(f.im,circular=FALSE,channel='B',gamma=2.2,display=TRUE)
```

---

zonal\_mask

*Divide a raster image into four stacks which are used as masks.*

---

### Description

This function imports a SpatRaster image using `terra::rast()` functionality, and divide into four masks, using the image centre and borders as vertices. The four zonal masks are then returned as a RasterStack.

### Usage

```
zonal_mask(img)
```

**Arguments**

*img*                      SpatRaster. The input single layer image generated from `terra::rast()`.

**Value**

A 4-layers stacks of image masks

**Examples**

```
image<-system.file('extdata/circular_coolpix4500+FC-E8_chestnut.jpg',package='hemispher')
zmsk<-zonal_mask(terra::rast(image, lyrs=3))
terra::plot(zmsk,col=gray.colors(5),main=c('N','W','S','E'))
```

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