

# Package ‘ArchipelagoEngine’

May 6, 2026

**Title** Spatial Weight Construction for Archipelagic Geographies

**Version** 0.1.1

**Description** Implements specialized K-Nearest Neighbor (KNN) logic to address the unique challenges of spatial modeling in archipelagic environments. Standard contiguity models often leave significant portions of island nations (e.g., 20% of the Philippines) mathematically isolated. This package provides tools to ensure 100% network connectivity, neutralizing spatial bias and enabling robust econometric inference. Methodology follows Anselin (1988, ISBN:9024737354) and LeSage and Pace (2009) <[doi:10.1201/9781420064254](https://doi.org/10.1201/9781420064254)>.

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**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**Imports** sf, spdep, magrittr

**Suggests** splm, spatialreg, knitr, rmarkdown, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**Depends** R (>= 3.5)

**NeedsCompilation** no

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**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2026-03-10 12:10:07 UTC

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`build_archipelago_weight`*Build Archipelagic Spatial Weights*

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### Description

Bridges fragmented island networks using K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) to ensure 100% connectivity (nc=1). This prevents the "orphaning" of island units common in standard Queen-contiguity models.

### Usage

```
build_archipelago_weight(p_map, k = 5)
```

### Arguments

<code>p_map</code>	An sf object containing the geographic boundaries.
<code>k</code>	Integer. Number of neighbors. Default is 5, optimized for Philippine archipelagic connectivity.

### Details

Standard Queen-contiguity models inherently fail in archipelagic settings. In the Philippine context, Queen logic leaves 16 provinces (approx. 20%) mathematically isolated, resulting in a fragmented network with only 80.2% connectivity.

This fragmentation introduces systematic predictive bias, evidenced by significant Residual Spatial Autocorrelation (Moran's I = 0.024,  $p < 0.05$ ) and a higher AIC (201.896).

By enforcing a unified grid (k=5), this function achieves:

- 100% Network Connectivity (nc=1)
- Neutralized Spatial Bias (Moran's I approx. 0,  $p > 0.10$ )
- Robust Spatial Spillovers (Lambda stable at ~0.26)

While the Queen model may appear to have a "tighter" fit (Log-Likelihood: -96.948), the KNN (k=5) specification (Log-Likelihood: -97.472) is prioritized for structural robustness and randomized residuals.

### Value

A listw object compatible with spatial regression models.

### Examples

```
# Example: Ensuring 100% connectivity for 81 provinces
weights <- build_archipelago_weight(raw_data, k = 5)
spdep::n.comp.nb(weights$neighbours)$nc
```

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`raw_data`*Philippine Provincial Map (81 Provinces)*

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**Description**

A processed sf object of the Philippines used to validate archipelagic spatial weights. This dataset serves as the benchmark for bridging fragmented maritime networks.

**Usage**`raw_data`**Format**

An sf object with 81 rows and geographic boundaries:

- **Standard Queen Connectivity:** 80.2% (16 isolated units)
- **ArchipelagoEngine (k=5) Connectivity:** 100.0% (0 isolated units)

**Source**

<https://gadm.org/> and research by Nino Jay Talingting.

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