

# Package ‘Xmisc’

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**Title** Xiaobei's miscellaneous classes and functions

**Description** This is Xiaobei's miscellaneous classes and functions useful when developing R packages, particularly for OOP using R Reference Class.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

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**URL** <http://CRAN.R-project.org/package=Xmisc>

**Repository** CRAN

**Depends** R (>= 3.1.0)

**Imports** methods

**Suggests** RUnit, datasets, data.table

**Enhances**

**Collate** 'Xmisc-package.R' 'imports.R' 'util.R' 'list.R' 'internal.R'  
'generic.R' 'xrefclass.R' 'valueparser.R' 'argumentparser.R'  
'logging.R' 'unittest.R'

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Xmisc-package	<i>Xiaobei's miscellaneous classes and functions</i>
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## Description

This is Xiaobei's miscellaneous classes and functions useful when developing R packages, particularly for OOP using R Reference Class.

## Details

Listed are a few highlighted features that may be of common interests.

- [xRefClass-class](#)
- [ArgumentParser-class](#)
- [logme](#)
- [lprintf](#)

You may find the latest version of Xmisc at <http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/Xmisc/index.html>.

## Author(s)

Xiaobei Zhao

## References

Xiaobei Zhao (2014)

---

Argument-class	<i>Argument</i>
----------------	-----------------

---

**Description**

Argument

**Fields**

name character  
value ANY  
type character  
default ANY  
help character

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

ArgumentParser-class	<i>Parser for command-line options and arguments</i>
----------------------	--

---

**Description**

Parser for command-line options and arguments

**Fields**

cmdargs list  
exeargs character  
args list  
types list  
defaults list  
helps list  
usage character  
description character

**Methods**

add\_argument(name, ..., type, default, required = FALSE, help = "", dest, action)  
Add an argument.  
add\_description(x) Add a description.  
add\_usage(x) Add a usage.  
make\_help() Make and display 'usage'.

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
## Test
require(Xmisc)
parser <- ArgumentParser$new()
parser$add_argument('--a_str', type='character')
parser$add_argument('--b_num', type='numeric', default='0')
a_str
## character(0)
b_num
## [1] 0
message(parser$get_help())
## Usage:
##   /bin/exec/R ...
## Description:
## Options:
##   a_str character
##   b_num numeric  [ 0 ]

## Not run:
## Test from a command line
R -q -e "
require(methods);require(Xmisc);
parser <- ArgumentParser$new();
parser$add_argument('--a_str', type='character');
parser$add_argument('--b_num', type='numeric', default='0');
printme(a_str);printme(b_num);parser$get_help();
" --args --a_str='Hello World!' --b_num=1
## Loading required package: Xmisc
## ## a_str ##
## [1] "Hello World!"
## ## b_num ##
## [1] 1
## ...

## End(Not run)
```

as.loglevel

*Coerces an object to loglevel***Description**

Coerces an object to loglevel

**Usage**

as.loglevel(x, loglevels = get\_loglevel())

**Arguments**

x                    object  
loglevels           the defined loglevels

**Value**

loglevel

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

atos                    *Convert an R object to a string*

---

**Description**

Convert an R object to a string

**Usage**

```
atos(x, envir = sys.frame(sys.parent(0)))
```

**Arguments**

x                    an R object.  
envir                the environment to use.

**Value**

character

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

cat0 *Cat without space but with a newline at the end*

---

**Description**

Cat without space but with a newline at the end by default

**Usage**

```
cat0(..., file = "", sep = "", fill = FALSE, labels = NULL,
      append = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

...	see cat
file	see cat
sep	see cat
fill	see cat
labels	see cat
append	see cat

**Value**

see cat

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

character\_to\_logical *Convert a character string to logical.*

---

**Description**

Convert a character string to logical.

**Usage**

```
character_to_logical(x, ignore.case = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

x	character
ignore.case	logical, whether case is ignored

**Value**

logical. TRUE for "y", "yes", "t", "true" and "1"; FALSE for "n", "no", "f", "false" and "0".

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
character_to_logical("yes")
try(character_to_logical("hi"))
```

---

check.packages	<i>Check if a package can be loaded</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

Check if a package can be loaded. If TRUE, load it as long as it has not yet been loaded.

**Usage**

```
check.packages(x, envir = sys.frame(sys.parent(0)), character.only = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x                    package, see library or require.  
envir                the environment to use.  
character.only      see library or require.

**Value**

logical, whether a package can be loaded.

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**See Also**

[is.package.loaded](#)

**Examples**

```
check.packages("Xmisc")
check.packages(Xmisc)
x <- "Xmisc"
check.packages(x, character.only=TRUE)
```



---

dfchunk	<i>Chunk data.frame into parts</i>
---------	------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Chunk data.frame into parts

**Usage**

```
dfchunk(x, n, balance.size = TRUE, balance.order = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	data.frame or matrix
n	numeric, the number of chunks
balance.size	logical, see vchunk
balance.order	logical, see vchunk

**Value**

a list of data.frame

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
dfchunk(iris,n=5)
dfchunk(iris[1:20,],n=3)
dfchunk(iris[1:20,],n=3,balance.order=TRUE)
```

---

dfconcat	<i>Concatenate data.frame into a string</i>
----------	---

---

**Description**

Concatenate data.frame into a string

**Usage**

```
dfconcat(x, sep = " ", ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    data.frame or matrix  
sep                  character, a delimiter  
...                  further arguments passed to 'format'. See format

**Value**

data.frame

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

dfsort                                    *Sort data.frame given levels of one column*

---

**Description**

Sort data.frame given levels of one column

**Usage**

```
dfsort(x, which.col, levels)
```

**Arguments**

x                    data.frame  
which.col           column index or name  
levels               character see base::factor

**Value**

data.frame

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
data(CO2)  
dfsort(CO2,"Treatment",c("nonchilled","chilled"))  
dfsort(CO2,3,c("chilled","nonchilled"))
```

---

dfsplit                      *Split data.frame given one leveled column*

---

**Description**

Split data.frame given one leveled column

**Usage**

```
dfsplit(x, which.col, levels)
```

**Arguments**

x	data.frame
which.col	column index or name
levels	character see base::factor

**Value**

named list

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
x <- read.table(textConnection("
chr1 0 100
chr2 100 200
chr10 200 300
"),col.names=c('chr','start','end'))

## compare the results by base::split and dffsplit
split(x,f=x[, 'chr'])
## $chr1
##   chr start end
## 1 chr1    0 100

## $chr10
##   chr start end
## 3 chr10  200 300

## $chr2
##   chr start end
## 2 chr2   100 200

dffsplit(x,'chr',c('chr1','chr2','chr10'))
## $chr1
```

```
## chr start end
## 1 chr1 0 100

## $chr2
## chr start end
## 2 chr2 100 200

## $chr10
## chr start end
## 3 chr10 200 300
```

---

dir.exists	<i>Does the directory exist</i>
------------	---------------------------------

---

**Description**

Does the directory exist

**Usage**

```
dir.exists(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    character, a directory name.

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

endswith	<i>Determine if a character string "ends with" specified characters</i>
----------	---

---

**Description**

Determine if a character string "ends with" specified characters

**Usage**

```
endswith(x, char, ignore.case = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	character, a string
char	character to match
ignore.case	logical, whether case is ignored

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
endswith('Hello World', 'world', ignore.case=TRUE)
```

---

func

*Funciton with attributes*

---

**Description**

Funciton with attributes (name, package)

**Usage**

```
func(x, name, package)
```

**Arguments**

x	function
name	character, the function name
package	character, where the function is from

**Value**

named funciton

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
func(lm, 'lm', 'stats')
```

```
## End(Not run)
```

---

`getone,list-method`     *Get an element by index or name from a list*

---

### **Description**

Get an element by index or name from a list

### **Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'list'  
getone(obj, x, safe = TRUE, msg = TRUE)
```

### **Arguments**

<code>obj</code>	list
<code>x</code>	index or name of an element
<code>safe</code>	whether allow to get an element by index, in case this element is after any named element
<code>msg</code>	whether print a message

### **Value**

list

### **Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

### **Examples**

```
ll <- list(11,22,33,a=44,b=55,66,77,c=88,99)  
getone(ll,numeric())  
getone(ll,"a")  
getone(ll,"c")  
getone(ll,1)  
getone(ll,7)  
getone(ll,7,safe=FALSE)
```

---

getone-methods	<i>getone-methods</i>
----------------	-----------------------

---

**Description**

getone-methods

**Usage**

```
getone(obj, ...)
```

**Arguments**

obj	object
...	further arguments

---

get_executable	<i>Get the executable file path of a package</i>
----------------	--

---

**Description**

Get the executable file path of a package

**Usage**

```
get_executable(pkg, name = tolower(pkg), dir = "bin", mustWork = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

pkg	character, the name of a package
name	character, the name of the executable file
dir	character, the directory in the package hierarchy
mustWork	See <code>system.file</code>

**Value**

character, the executable file path

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
try(get_executable('Xmisc', 'Xmisc-argumentparser.R'))

## End(Not run)
```

---

get_extdata	<i>Get the extdata file path of a package</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

Get the extdata file path of a package

**Usage**

```
get_extdata(pkg, name, dir = "extdata", mustWork = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

pkg	character, the name of a package
name	character, the name of the extdata file
dir	character, the directory in the package hierarchy
mustWork	See system.file

**Value**

character, the extdata file path

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
try(get_extdata('datasets', 'morley.tab', 'data'))  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

get_loglevel	<i>Define log levels</i>
--------------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

Define log levels

**Usage**

```
get_loglevel()
```



**Value**

the defined loglevels

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

is.activeBindingFunction

*General test of a class name being activeBindingFunction*

---

**Description**

General test of a class name being activeBindingFunction

**Usage**

is.activeBindingFunction(cls)

**Arguments**

cls                    the name of a class

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

is.connection

*Is a connection*

---

**Description**

Is a connection

**Usage**

is.connection(x)

**Arguments**

x                      R object

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
is.connection(textConnection(LETTERS))
```

---

`is.dir`

*Is it a directory*

---

**Description**

Is it a directory

**Usage**

```
is.dir(x)
```

**Arguments**

`x` character, a directory name.

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

is.file	<i>Is it a file</i>
---------	---------------------

---

**Description**

Is it a file

**Usage**

```
is.file(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    character, a file name.

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

is.linux	<i>Is the OS Linux</i>
----------	------------------------

---

**Description**

Is the OS Linux

**Usage**

```
is.linux()
```

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

`is.loglevel`*General test of an object being interpretable as loglevel*

---

**Description**

General test of an object being interpretable as loglevel

**Usage**

```
is.loglevel(x, loglevels = get_loglevel())
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	object
<code>loglevels</code>	the defined loglevels

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

`is.package.loaded`*Check if a package is loaded*

---

**Description**

Check if a package is loaded

**Usage**

```
is.package.loaded(x, envir = sys.frame(sys.parent(0)),  
character.only = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	package, see library or require.
<code>envir</code>	the environment to use.
<code>character.only</code>	see library or require.

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**See Also**

[check.packages](#)

**Examples**

```
is.package.loaded(Xmisc)
is.package.loaded("Xmisc")
x <- "Xmisc"
is.package.loaded(x) #FALSE
is.package.loaded(x, character.only=TRUE) #TRUE
```

---

*is.uninitializedField* *General test of a class being uninitializedField*

---

**Description**

General test of a class being uninitializedField

**Usage**

```
is.uninitializedField(x)
```

**Arguments**

x	class
---	-------

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**See Also**

`methods::ReferenceClasses`

---

is.windows	<i>Is the OS Windows</i>
------------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

Is the OS Windows

**Usage**

```
is.windows()
```

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

List-class	<i>A class inherited directly from envRefClass</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

A class inherited directly from envRefClass

**Fields**

data list, a base::list

**Methods**

popmany(x) Pop many by indexes.

popone(x, warn = TRUE, error = TRUE) Pop the one at the given index/position (or name) in the list, and return it. If no index is specified, obj\$popone() removes and returns the last one in the list.

removeone(x) Remove the first matched element whose value is x. Display an error if it does not exist.

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

**logme***Log the name and the content of an R object*

---

**Description**

Log the name and the content of an R object given levels of logger

**Usage**

```
logme(x = NULL, prefix = NULL, logger = NULL,  
      envir = sys.frame(sys.parent(0)))
```

**Arguments**

x	ANY, an R object.
prefix	the prefix to log.
logger	logging level, one of: NULL, 'INFO', 'DEBUG', 'WARNING', 'ERROR', 'CRITICAL'
envir	the environment to use.

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**See Also**

[printme](#)

**Examples**

```
## log an object  
x1 <- 1:6  
logme(x1)  
  
## log according to logger levels  
bar <- function(x,envir=sys.frame(sys.parent(0))) {  
  for (.logger in get_loglevel()) {  
    if (is.null(.logger)) .prefix <- 'NULL' else .prefix <- .logger  
    logme(x,prefix=.prefix,logger=.logger,envir=envir)  
  }  
}  
options(logger='DEBUG')  
bar(1:6) # print logs of level NULL, INFO and DEBUG  
options(logger='ERROR')  
bar(1:6) # print logs of level NULL, INFO, DEBUG, WARNING and ERROR
```

logsave *Log a 'save'*

---

**Description**

Log a 'save'

**Usage**

```
logsave(x, logger = NULL, envir = sys.frame(sys.parent(0)))
```

**Arguments**

x ANY, an R object.  
logger see [logme](#)  
envir the environment to use.

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
inFpath <- "mydir/mypath"  
logsave(inFpath)
```

---

lprintf *String formatting given an environment*

---

**Description**

String formatting given an environment

**Usage**

```
lprintf(x, envir = sys.frame(sys.parent(1)))
```

**Arguments**

x character, a string to format.  
envir the environment to use.

**Value**

character



**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**See Also**[sprintf](#)**Examples**

```
a="fox";b="dog";
x <- 'The quick brown %(a)s jumps over the lazy %(b)s?
Or the quick brown %(b)s jumps over the lazy %(a)s?'

## format given the global environment
lprintf(x)
## [1] "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog?
## Or the quick brown dog jumps over the lazy fox?"

## format given a local environment
myenv <- new.env()
local(
  {a="coyote";b="dog";},
  envir=myenv
)
lprintf(x,myenv)
## [1] "The quick brown coyote jumps over the lazy dog?
## Or the quick brown dog jumps over the lazy coyote?"
```

---

**lstrip***Strip a string with given characters at the beginning (left end)*

---

**Description**

Strip a string with given characters at the beginning (left end)

**Usage**

```
lstrip(x, char = " ")
```

**Arguments**

x	character, a string.
char	character to trim.

**Value**

character

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

make.dir	<i>Make a directory recursively</i>
----------	-------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Make a directory recursively

**Usage**`make.dir(x, mode)`**Arguments**

x	character, a directory name.
mode	the mode of the path, see <code>dir.create</code>

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
if (character_to_logical(
  raw_input("Would you like to create a directory for testing
  at current working directory?",c('yes','no')))){
  ## make.dir('testdir','751') # uncomment it to let R create the directory
}

## End(Not run)
```

---

popmany,list-method	<i>Remove and return many elements from a list</i>
---------------------	--

---

**Description**

Remove and return many elements from a list

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'list'
popmany(obj, x)
```

**Arguments**

obj	list
x	indexes

**Value**

the elements and the R object is altered in place

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

popmany-methods	<i>popmany-methods</i>
-----------------	------------------------

---

**Description**

popmany-methods

**Usage**

```
popmany(obj, ..., envir)
```

**Arguments**

obj	object
...	further arguments
envir	the environment to use

---

popone,list-method	<i>Remove and return an element from a list</i>
--------------------	---

---

**Description**

Remove and return an element from an R object, given name or index. Default: the last element  
 Note: the R object is altered in place, like Python List pop()

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'list'
popone(obj, x, warn = TRUE, error = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

obj	an R object
x	name or index
warn	logical, whether warn at error
error	logical, whether stop at error

**Value**

the element and the R object is altered in place

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
ll <- list(1,2,3,a=4,b=5,6,7,c=8,9)
popone(ll,"a")
popone(ll,1) ## remove the 1st in ll
popone(ll,1) ## remove the next (2nd of the origin)
try(popone(list(),"a"))
```

---

popone-methods

*popone-methods*

---

**Description**

popone-methods

**Usage**

```
popone(obj, ..., envir)
```

**Arguments**

obj	object
...	further arguments
envir	the environment to use

---

printme	<i>Print the name and the content of an R object</i>
---------	--

---

## Description

Print the name and the content of an R object

## Usage

```
printme(x = NULL, prefix = NULL, envir = sys.frame(sys.parent(0)))
```

## Arguments

x	ANY, an R object.
prefix	the prefix to print.
envir	the environment to use.

## Author(s)

Xiaobei Zhao

## See Also

[logme](#)

## Examples

```
## print an object
x1 <- 1:6
printme(x1)

## print with a prefix
foo <- function(x,envir=sys.frame(sys.parent(0))){
  printme(x,match.call(),envir=envir)
  invisible()
}
foo(1:6)
```

R5.value.default      *R5.value.default*

---

**Description**

R5.value.default

**Usage**

```
R5.value.default(type, default = "list")
```

**Arguments**

type	the type of an R object
default	the default value

**Value**

ANY

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
require(Xmisc)
R5.value.default('character')
try(R5.value.default(NULL))
R5.value.default('environment')

R5.value.default('hclust')
R5.value.default('dendrogram')
R5.value.default('formula')
R5.value.default('lm')
```

---

R5.value.parse      *R5.value.parse*

---

**Description**

R5.value.parse

**Usage**

```
R5.value.parse(value, type, default = "list")
```

**Arguments**

value	the value passed to the parameter
type	the type of an R object
default	the default value

**Value**

ANY

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
R5.value.parse(NULL, 'logical')
R5.value.parse(1, 'logical')

R5.value.parse(NULL, 'hclust')
R5.value.parse(NULL, 'dendrogram')
R5.value.parse(NULL, 'formula')
R5.value.parse(NULL, 'lm')

R5.value.parse(NULL, 'character')
R5.value.parse("", 'character')
## [1] ""
```

---

raw\_input

*Input from the terminal (in interactive use)*


---

**Description**

Input from the terminal (in interactive use), confined by choice if provided.

**Usage**

```
raw_input(msg = "", choice, strip = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

msg	character, a message to input
choice	character, choices to confine the input
strip	logical, whether to strip trailing spaces of the input

**Value**

character

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
raw_input("Please enter user name: ")  
raw_input("Please confirm",choice=c("yes","no"))  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

removeone,list-method *Remove an element from an R object*

---

**Description**

Remove an element from an R object Note: the R object is altered in place

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'list'  
removeone(obj, x, warn = TRUE, error = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

obj	an R object
x	an element
warn	logical, whether warn at error
error	logical, whether stop at error

**Value**

NULL and the R object is altered in place

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
ll=list(1,2,3,a=4,b=5,6,7,c=8,9)  
removeone(ll,3)
```



---

removeone-methods	<i>removeone-methods</i>
-------------------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

removeone-methods

**Usage**

```
removeone(obj, ..., envir = sys.frame(sys.parent(2)))
```

**Arguments**

obj	object
...	further arguments
envir	the environment to use

---

rstrip	<i>Strip a string with given chars at the (right) end</i>
--------	---

---

**Description**

Strip a string with given chars at the (right) end

**Usage**

```
rstrip(x, char = " ")
```

**Arguments**

x	character, a string.
char	character to trim.

**Value**

character

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

schunk                      *Chunk a string into parts*

---

### Description

Chunk a string into parts

### Usage

```
schunk(x, size, brk = "-", indent.width1 = 0,
       indent.width = indent.width1, concat = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

x	character, a string to chunk.
size	numeric, the size of a chunk.
brk	character to link broken words.
indent.width1	numeric, indent of the first line
indent.width	numeric, indent of the other lines
concat	logical, whether to concatenate by a 'newline'

### Value

character

### Author(s)

Xiaobei Zhao

### Examples

```
x <- 'The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.'
cat(schunk(x,15),'\n')
cat(schunk(x,15,indent.width1=4),'\n') # indent all lines
cat(schunk(x,15,indent.width=4),'\n') # indent lines other than the first
x <- 'The word, honorificabilitudinita, occurs in Shakespeare\'s
play Love\'s Labour\'s Lost, and means "with honorablenesses".'
cat(schunk(x,30),'\n')
## The word, honorificabilitudini-
## ta, occurs in Shakespeare's
## play Love's Labour's Lost, and
## means "with honorablenesses".
```

---

srep	<i>Replicate and concatenate a string</i>
------	---

---

**Description**

Replicate and concatenate a string

**Usage**

```
srep(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	See rep
...	See rep

**Value**

character

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
srep("*",5)
```

---

stampme	<i>Print a message with a time stamp</i>
---------	--

---

**Description**

Print a message with a time stamp

**Usage**

```
stampme(x)
```

**Arguments**

x	ANY, an R object.
---	-------------------

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
stampme('Hello World!')
```

---

stampmsg	<i>Generate a diagnostic message from its arguments, with timestamp</i>
----------	---

---

**Description**

Generate a diagnostic message from its arguments, with timestamp

**Usage**

```
stampmsg(..., domain = NULL, appendLF = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

...	see message
domain	see message
appendLF	see message

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
stampmsg(LETTERS)
```

---

startswith	<i>Determine if a character string "starts with" specified characters</i>
------------	---

---

**Description**

Determine if a character string "starts with" specified characters. A modified version of `gdata::startsWith`.

**Usage**

```
startswith(x, char, ignore.case = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	character, a string.
char	character to match.
ignore.case	logical, whether case is ignored

**Value**

logical

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
startswith('Hello World', 'hello', ignore.case=TRUE)
```

---

strip

*Strip a string with given chars at both ends*

---

**Description**

Strip a string with given chars at both ends

**Usage**

```
strip(x, char = " ")
```

**Arguments**

x                    character, a string.  
char                 character to trim.

**Value**

character

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

`strsplit.first`      *Split a string at the first 'split'*

---

**Description**

Split a string at the first 'split'

**Usage**

```
strsplit.first(x, split, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	character, a string to split.
<code>split,</code>	see <code>strsplit</code>
<code>...</code> ,	see <code>strsplit</code>

**Value**

list

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
strsplit.first('inFpath="a=1.b=2.c=TRUE"', split="=")
```

---

`Sys.Epoch`      *Get system epoch*

---

**Description**

Get system epoch

**Usage**

```
Sys.Epoch()
```

**Value**

numeric

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

UnitTest-class      *Unit testing for developing R packages*

---

**Description**

Unit testing for developing R packages

**Details**

Unit testing for developing R packages

**Fields**

pkg character the name of the package  
testDpath character the absolute directory names where to look for test files. Default: <pkg>/tests  
testFnameRegexp character Regular expression for matching test file names. Default: \*.R  
testFuncRegexp character Regular expression for matching test functions. Default: test.\*

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
pkg <- 'Xmisc'  
test.obj <- UnitTest$new(pkg=pkg)  
test.obj$runme()  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

valid.arg.index      *Check validity of an index*

---

**Description**

Check validity of an index of a list object.

**Usage**

```
valid.arg.index(obj, x, safe = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

obj	list
x	index or name of an element
safe	whether safe if an index is higher than the one of any named element

**Value**

numeric, the index. Return numeric(0) if the name or the index does not exist or when the index is invalid. If safe is FALSE, any index is valid; if safe is TRUE, an index is invalid when the indexed element is positionally after another named element.

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
ll <- list(11,12,13,a=14,b=15,16,17,c=18,19)
valid.arg.index(ll,-1) # non-existing index
valid.arg.index(ll,0) # non-existing index
valid.arg.index(ll,1) # valid index
valid.arg.index(ll,2) # valid index
valid.arg.index(ll,5) # invalid index
valid.arg.index(ll,10) # non-existing index
valid.arg.index(ll,"a")# valid name
valid.arg.index(ll,"e")# non-existing name
valid.arg.index(ll,5,safe=FALSE) # still return the index
```

---

valid.mode

*Return a valid mode given digits*

---

**Description**

Return a valid mode given digits

**Usage**

```
valid.mode(mode, digits = 4)
```

**Arguments**

mode	character, the mode of the path, see <code>dir.create</code> .
digits	numeric, either 3 or 4.

**Value**

mode



**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
valid.mode("777",4)
valid.mode("0777",3)
```

---

ValueParser-class      *Parser for values*


---

**Description**

Parser for values

**Fields**

```
value ANY
type character
```

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
ValueParser$new(value="", type='character')$get_value()
ValueParser$new(type='character')$get_value()
```

---

vchunk                      *Chunk a vector into parts*


---

**Description**

Chunk a vector into parts given the number of chunks or the max size of a chunk

**Usage**

```
vchunk(x, n = NULL, max.size = NULL, balance.size = TRUE,
       balance.order = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	vector to chunk
n	numeric, the number of chunks
max.size	numeric, the maximal size of a chunk
balance.size	logical, as equal as possible. Whether return balanced chunks.
balance.order	logical, whether to balance the elements. Force balance.size to be TRUE, given their original orders.

**Value**

list

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
vchunk(1:7,7)
vchunk(1:19,n=3)
vchunk(1:19,max.size=9) # size-balanced
vchunk(1:19,max.size=9,balance.size=FALSE) # size/order-unbalanced
vchunk(1:19,max.size=9,balance.size=FALSE,balance.order=TRUE) # order-balanced
vchunk(1:19,max.size=9,balance.order=TRUE) # size/order-balanced
```

---

vconcat

*Concatenate vector into a string*


---

**Description**

Concatenate vector into a string

**Usage**

```
vconcat(x, sep = ", ", capsule = FALSE, quote = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	vector
sep	character, a delimiter
capsule	logical, whether to capsule with 'c()'
quote	logical, whether to surround elements by double quotes.

**Value**

vector

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

**Examples**

```
cat(vconcat(head(letters),capsule=TRUE,quote=TRUE),'\n')  
## c("a", "b", "c", "d", "e", "f")
```

```
cat(vconcat(head(letters),sep='-'),'\n')  
## a-b-c-d-e-f
```

---

write.data.table	<i>A wrapper of write.table</i>
------------------	---------------------------------

---

**Description**

A wrapper of write.table with customized parameters and parsing

**Usage**

```
write.data.table(outFpath = "", x, append = FALSE, sep = "\t",  
  quote = FALSE, row.names = FALSE, col.names = !append, logger = NULL,  
  ...)
```

**Arguments**

outFpath	file, see write.table
x	see write.table
append	see write.table
sep	see write.table
quote	see write.table
row.names	see write.table
col.names	see write.table
logger	see <a href="#">logme</a>
...	further arguments passed to 'write.table'. See write.table

**Author(s)**

Xiaobei Zhao

---

xRefClass-class      *Extended Reference Class*

---

## Description

The Extended Reference Class (xRefClass) inherits directly from envRefClass. Listed are some of its key features:

- Method `initialize` passes arguments by position or name.
- Method `copy2`, a modified version of `copy`, is tolerant to `activeBindingFunction` as fields.
- Method `update` updates a class instance's methods according to any update of the class.

## Details

Extended Reference Class

## Fields

`.index` named\_numeric indexes of args  
`.default` named\_list default values of args  
`.meta` named\_list additional args (meta information)  
`.envir` environment. Default: `as.environment(.self)`  
`.tmp.list` list for temporary storage  
`.out.list` list for outputting

## Methods

`copy2(shallow = FALSE)` Modified version of 'copy' to allow 'activeBindingFunction' as fields.  
`update(x)` Modify method definition without re-create the class instance. `x`: character, methods to be updated.

## Author(s)

Xiaobei Zhao

## See Also

`methods::ReferenceClasses`

**Examples**

```

## Not run:
MyClass <-
  setRefClass(
    "MyClass",
    list(
      x="numeric",
      y="numeric",
      z=function(){x+y}
    ),
    contains="xRefClass",
    methods=list(
      initialize=function(...){
        .idx <- c(x=1,y=2)
        callSuper(...,.index=.idx)
      },
      printme=function(){
        cat('Hello World!','\n')
      }
    )
  )

## Method initialize - pass by position
obj <- MyClass$new(1,2)
obj$x
obj$y

## Method initialize - pass by name
obj <- MyClass$new(y=2)
obj$x
obj$y

## Method copy
## obj <- MyClass$new(1,2)
## obk <- obj$copy() # Fail!
## ## Error in (function () : unused argument (quote("myclass"))

## Method copy2
obj <- MyClass$new(1,2) # No such error!
obk <- obj$copy2()
obk$z

## Method update
obj <- MyClass$new()
obj$printme()
MyClass <- # To modify one of the original functions
  setRefClass(
    "MyClass",
    list(
      x="numeric",
      y="numeric",
      z=function(){x+y}
    )
  )

```

```
    ),
  contains="xRefClass",
  methods=list(
    initialize=function(...){
      .idx <- c(x=1,y=2)
      callSuper(...,.index=.idx)
    },
    printme=function(){ # This function is modified
      cat('Hello R!','\n')
    }
  )
)
obj$printme() # The function is yet not modified
## Hello World!
obj$update("printme") # update the function
obj$printme() # The function is modified
## Hello R!

## End(Not run)
```

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