

# Package ‘sss’

October 14, 2022

**Version** 0.2.1

**License** GPL-2 | GPL-3

**Title** Import Files in the Triple-s (Standard Survey Structure) Format

**Description** Tools to import survey files in the '.sss' (triple-s) format.  
The package provides the function 'read.sss()' that reads the '.asc'  
(or '.csv') and '.sss' files of a triple-s survey data file.  
See also <<https://www.triple-s.org/>>.

**URL** <http://andrie.github.io/sss/>, <https://andrie.github.io/sss/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/andrie/sss/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 2.11.0)

**Imports** utils, xml2, methods, assertthat

**Suggests** testthat, covr, knitr, rmarkdown, dplyr, spelling, utf8

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.1

**Encoding** UTF-8

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Language** en-US

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Andrie de Vries [aut, cre]

**Maintainer** Andrie de Vries <[apdevries@gmail.com](mailto:apdevries@gmail.com)>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2022-08-14 16:20:02 UTC

## R topics documented:

fast.read.fwf . . . . .	2
parseSSSmetadata . . . . .	3
read.sss . . . . .	3
readSSSdata . . . . .	4
readSSSmetadata . . . . .	5

---

fast.read.fwf	<i>Read fixed-width files quickly.</i>
---------------	--

---

### Description

Experimental replacement for `utils::read.fwf` that runs much faster. However, it is much less flexible than `utils::read.fwf`.

### Usage

```
fast.read.fwf(
  file,
  widths,
  col.names = NULL,
  colClasses = NA,
  tz = "",
  dec = ".",
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

file	Character vector: name of file
widths	Numeric vector: column widths. Negative numbers mean "skip this many columns". Use an NA as the final element if there are likely to be extra characters at the end of each row after the last one that you're interested in.
col.names	names for the columns that are NOT skipped
colClasses	can be used to control type conversion; see <code>read.table()</code> . It is an optional vector whose names must be part of <code>col.names</code> . There is one extension of the <code>read.table()</code> rules: a <code>colClasses</code> string starting <code>POSIXct</code> will trigger automatic conversion to <code>POSIXct</code> , using the rest of the string as the format specifier.
tz	used in auto-conversion to <code>POSIXct()</code> when <code>colClasses</code> is set
dec	the character to be assumed for decimal points. Passed to <code>utils::type.convert()</code>
...	ignored

---

parseSSSmetadata	<i>Parses a triple-s XML (sss) metadata file, as specified by the triple-s XML standard.</i>
------------------	--

---

### Description

This function reads and parses a .sss XML metadata file as well as its associated .asc data file. The .sss standard defines a standard survey structure.

### Usage

```
parseSSSmetadata(x, XMLdoc)
```

### Arguments

x	An XML document - as returned by <code>xml2::read_xml()</code> , or <code>readSSSmetadata()</code>
XMLdoc	No longer used. Use x instead.

### See Also

`readSSSmetadata`, `read.sss`, `readSSSdata`

---

<code>read.sss</code>	<i>Reads a triple-s XML (asc) data file, as specified by the triple-s XML standard.</i>
-----------------------	---

---

### Description

This function reads and parses a .sss XML metadata file as well as its associated .asc data file. The sss standard defines a standard survey structure.

### Usage

```
read.sss(
  sssFilename,
  ascFilename = guess_asc_filename(sssFilename),
  sep = "_",
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

sssFilename	Character string: name of .sss file containing the survey metadata
ascFilename	Character string: name of .asc (or .csv) file containing survey data. If this is not provided, guesses the filename using
sep	Character vector defining the string that separates question and subquestion labels, e.g. <code>c("Q_1", "Q_2")</code>
verbose	If TRUE, prints messages when reading data files. Defaults to FALSE.

**Value**

A data frame with one element (column) for each variable in the data set.

The resulting data.frame contains several attributes:

- `variable.labels`: a named list of value labels with one element per variable, either NULL or a named character vector
- `label.table`: a named list with one element per question. Every element is a named character string that contains the label codes for that question.

**References**

<https://www.triple-s.org/>

**See Also**

Other read functions: [readSSSdata\(\)](#), [readSSSmetadata\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
example <- system.file("sampledata/sample-1.sss", package = "sss")

# read.sss() automatically guesses the data file name
read.sss(system.file("sampledata/sample-1.sss", package = "sss"))

read.sss(system.file("sampledata/sample-2.sss", package = "sss"))

read.sss(system.file("sampledata/sample-3.sss", package = "sss"))
```

---

readSSSdata	<i>Reads a triple-s XML (asc) data file, as specified by the triple-s XML standard.</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

This function reads an ‘.asc’ data file.

**Usage**

```
readSSSdata(x, ascFilename)
```

**Arguments**

x	Name of .asc file containing the survey metadata
ascFilename	No longer used. Use x instead.

**See Also**

[read.sss\(\)](#), [readSSSMetadata\(\)](#)

Other read functions: [read.sss\(\)](#), [readSSSMetadata\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
sampleRoot <- system.file("sampledata", package = "sss")
filenameSSS <- file.path(sampleRoot, "sample-1.sss")
filenameASC <- file.path(sampleRoot, "sample-1.asc")

readSSSdata(filenameSSS)
readSSSMetadata(filenameSSS)
```

---

readSSSMetadata	<i>Reads a triple-s XML (sss) metadata file, as specified by the triple-s XML standard.</i>
-----------------	---

---

**Description**

This function reads a .sss XML metadata file. The .sss standard defines a standard survey structure

**Usage**

```
readSSSMetadata(x, SSSfilename)
```

**Arguments**

x	Name of .sss file containing the survey metadata
SSSfilename	No longer used. Use x instead.

**See Also**

[parseSSSMetadata\(\)](#), [read.sss\(\)](#), [readSSSdata\(\)](#)

Other read functions: [read.sss\(\)](#), [readSSSdata\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
sampleRoot <- system.file("sampledata", package = "sss")
filenameSSS <- file.path(sampleRoot, "sample-1.sss")
filenameASC <- file.path(sampleRoot, "sample-1.asc")

readSSSdata(filenameSSS)
readSSSMetadata(filenameSSS)
```

# Index

- \* **parsing functions**
  - parseSSSmetadata, 3
- \* **read functions**
  - read.sss, 3
  - readSSSdata, 4
  - readSSSmetadata, 5
  
- fast.read.fwf, 2
  
- parseSSSmetadata, 3
- parseSSSmetadata(), 5
- POSIXct(), 2
  
- read.sss, 3, 5
- read.sss(), 5
- read.table(), 2
- readSSSdata, 4, 4, 5
- readSSSdata(), 5
- readSSSmetadata, 4, 5, 5
- readSSSmetadata(), 3, 5
  
- utils::read.fwf, 2
- utils::type.convert(), 2
  
- xml2::read\_xml(), 3