

Package ‘csutil’

July 22, 2025

Title Common Base-R Problems Relating to Lists

Version 2023.4.25

Description Utility functions that help with common base-R problems relating to lists.

Lists in base-R are very flexible. This package provides functions to quickly and easily characterize types of lists. That is, to identify if all elements in a list are null, data.frames, lists, or fully named lists. Other functionality is provided for the handling of lists, such as the easy splitting of lists into equally sized groups, and the unnesting of data.frames within fully named lists.

Depends R (>= 3.3.0)

License MIT + file LICENSE

URL <https://www.csids.no/csutil/>, <https://github.com/csids/csutil>

BugReports <https://github.com/csids/csutil/issues>

Encoding UTF-8

Imports data.table, magrittr, ggplot2

Suggests testthat, knitr, rmarkdown, rstudioapi, glue

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

VignetteBuilder knitr

NeedsCompilation no

Author Richard Aubrey White [aut, cre] (ORCID:
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6747-1726>>),
CSIDS [cph]

Maintainer Richard Aubrey White <hello@rwhite.no>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2023-04-25 07:10:02 UTC

Contents

apply_fn_via_hash_table	2
easy_split	2
is_all_list_elements_null_or_df	3

is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list	4
is_all_list_elements_null_or_list	5
is_fully_named_list	5
unnest_dfs_within_list_of_fully_named_lists	6
Index	8

apply_fn_via_hash_table	<i>Apply a function via hash table</i>
-------------------------	--

Description

This function extracts the unique input values, applies the given function to it to create a hash table (containing unique input/output combinations), and then matches the original input to the hash table to obtain the desired output.

Usage

```
apply_fn_via_hash_table(x, fn, ...)
```

Arguments

- x A vector data that needs a function applied to it.
- fn A function that will be applied to x.
- ... Arguments that will be passed to 'fn'.

Details

This can dramatically speed up computation if there is a lot of data and a limited amount of unique values.

easy_split	<i>Split a vector into a list of vectors</i>
------------	--

Description

Easily split a list into a list of equally sized vectors.

Usage

```
easy_split(x, size_of_each_group = NULL, number_of_groups = NULL)
```

Arguments

`x` The vector to be split

`size_of_each_group` If you want to split 'x' into a number of groups, each of 'size_of_each_group' size

`number_of_groups` How many equally sized groups do you want?

Details

You can either specify the length of the list (via 'number_of_groups') or the length of the equally sized vectors within each list element (via 'size_of_each_group'). The last element of the list can be shorter than the other elements.

Value

A list containing equally sized vectors.

Examples

```
easy_split(letters[1:20], size_of_each_group = 3)
easy_split(letters[1:20], number_of_groups = 3)
```

```
is_all_list_elements_null_or_df
```

Are all elements in a list null or data.frames?

Description

Checks if A) 'x' is a list, B) All elements in 'x' are either null or data.frame.

Usage

```
is_all_list_elements_null_or_df(x)
```

Arguments

`x` An object

Value

Boolean.

Examples

```
is_all_list_elements_null_or_df(data.frame())
is_all_list_elements_null_or_df(list(data.frame()))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_df(list(1, NULL))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_df(list(data.frame(), NULL))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_df(list("a"=1, 2))
```

```
is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list
```

Are all elements in a list null or fully named lists?

Description

Checks if A) 'x' is a list, B) All elements in 'x' are either null or fully named lists.

Usage

```
is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list(x)
```

Arguments

x An object

Details

Fully named lists are lists with each element having a name.

Value

Boolean.

Examples

```
is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list(data.frame())
is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list(list(data.frame()))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list(list(1, NULL))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list(list(list(), NULL))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list(list(list("a" = 1), NULL))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list(list("a"=1, 2))
```

`is_all_list_elements_null_or_list`*Are all elements in a list null or lists?*

Description

Checks if A) 'x' is a list, B) All elements in 'x' are either null or list.

Usage

```
is_all_list_elements_null_or_list(x)
```

Arguments

x	An object
---	-----------

Value

Boolean.

Examples

```
is_all_list_elements_null_or_list(data.frame())
is_all_list_elements_null_or_list(list(data.frame()))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_list(list(1, NULL))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_list(list(list(), NULL))
is_all_list_elements_null_or_list(list("a"=1, 2))
```

`is_fully_named_list` *Is this a fully named list?*

Description

Checks if 'x' is a list with each element named.

Usage

```
is_fully_named_list(x)
```

Arguments

x	An object
---	-----------

Value

Boolean.

Examples

```
is_fully_named_list(list())
is_fully_named_list(list(1))
is_fully_named_list(list("a"=1))
is_fully_named_list(list("a"=1, 2))
```

```
unnest_dfs_within_list_of_fully_named_lists
```

Unnest data.frames within fully named list

Description

Consider the situation where a function returns a list containing two data.frames. If this function is called repeatedly and the return values are stored in a list, we will have a list of fully named lists (each of which contains a data.frame). Typically, we want to extract the two data.frames from this nested list structure (and rbindlist them).

Usage

```
unnest_dfs_within_list_of_fully_named_lists(
  x,
  returned_name_when_dfs_are_not_nested = "data",
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x A list of fully named lists (which then contain data.frames)

returned_name_when_dfs_are_not_nested When x is a single list of data.frames, what name should be returned?

... parameters passed to data.table::rbindlist

Value

Fully named list, each element containing a data.table.

Examples

```
x <- list(
  list(
    "a" = data.frame("v1"=1),
    "b" = data.frame("v2"=3)
  ),
  list(
    "a" = data.frame("v1"=10),
    "b" = data.frame("v2"=30),
    "d" = data.frame("v3"=50)
  ),
)
```

```
list(  
  "a" = NULL  
)  
NULL  
)  
print(x)  
csutil::unnest_dfs_within_list_of_fully_named_lists(x)  
  
x <- list(  
  data.frame("v1"=1),  
  data.frame("v3"=50)  
)  
print(x)  
csutil::unnest_dfs_within_list_of_fully_named_lists(  
  x,  
  returned_name_when_dfs_are_not_nested = "NAME",  
  fill = TRUE  
)
```

Index

`apply_fn_via_hash_table`, [2](#)

`easy_split`, [2](#)

`is_all_list_elements_null_or_df`, [3](#)

`is_all_list_elements_null_or_fully_named_list`,
[4](#)

`is_all_list_elements_null_or_list`, [5](#)

`is_fully_named_list`, [5](#)

`unnest_dfs_within_list_of_fully_named_lists`,
[6](#)