

Package ‘GetoptLong’

July 21, 2025

Type Package

Title Parsing Command-Line Arguments and Simple Variable Interpolation

Version 1.0.5

Date 2020-12-15

Author Zuguang Gu

Maintainer Zuguang Gu <z.gu@edkfz.de>

Depends R (>= 3.3.0)

Imports rjson, GlobalOptions (>= 0.1.0), methods, crayon

Suggests testthat (>= 1.0.0), knitr, markdown, rmarkdown

VignetteBuilder knitr

Description This is a command-line argument parser which wraps the powerful Perl module Getopt::Long and with some adaptations for easier use in R. It also provides a simple way for variable interpolation in R.

URL <https://github.com/jokergoo/GetoptLong>

SystemRequirements Perl, Getopt::Long

License MIT + file LICENSE

NeedsCompilation no

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2020-12-15 15:50:02 UTC

Contents

GetOptions	2
GetoptLong	2
GetoptLong.options	4
get_scriptdir	5
get_scriptname	5
qq	6
qq.options	7
qqcat	8
source_script	9

Index**10**

GetOptions	<i>Wrapper of the Perl module Getopt::Long in R</i>
------------	---

Description

Wrapper of the Perl module Getopt::Long in R

Usage

```
GetOptions(..., envir = parent.frame())
```

Arguments

...	Pass to GetoptLong .
envir	User's environment where GetoptLong looks for default values and exports variables.

Details

This function is the same as [GetoptLong](#). It is just to make it consistent as the GetOptions() subroutine in Getopt::Long module in Perl.

Author(s)

Zuguang Gu <z.gu@dkfz.de>

Examples

```
# There is no example
NULL
```

GetoptLong	<i>Wrapper of the Perl module Getopt::Long in R</i>
------------	---

Description

Wrapper of the Perl module Getopt::Long in R

Usage

```
GetoptLong(..., help_head = NULL, help_foot = NULL, envir = parent.frame(),
  argv_str = NULL, template_control = list(),
  help_style = GetoptLong.options$help_style)
```

Arguments

...	Specification of options. The value can be a two-column matrix, a vector with even number of elements or a text template. See the vignette for detailed explanation.
help_head	Head of the help message when invoking Rscript foo.R --help.
help_foot	Foot of the help message when invoking Rscript foo.R --help.
envir	User's environment where GetoptLong looks for default values and exports variables.
argv_str	A string that contains command-line arguments. It is only for testing purpose.
template_control	A list of parameters for controlling when the specification is a template.
help_style	The style of the help messages. Value should be either "one-column" or "two-column".

Details

Following shows a simple example. Put following code at the beginning of your script (e.g. foo.R):

```
library(GetoptLong)

cutoff = 0.05
GetoptLong(
  "number=i", "Number of items.",
  "cutoff=f", "Cutoff for filtering results.",
  "verbose", "Print message."
)
```

Then you can call the script from command line either by:

```
Rscript foo.R --number 4 --cutoff 0.01 --verbose
Rscript foo.R --number 4 --cutoff=0.01 --verbose
Rscript foo.R -n 4 -c 0.01 -v
Rscript foo.R -n 4 --verbose
```

In this example, number is a mandatory option and it should only be in integer mode. cutoff is optional and it already has a default value 0.05. verbose is a logical option. If parsing is successful, two variables number and verbose will be imported into the working environment with the specified values. Value for cutoff will be updated if it is specified in command-line.

For advanced use of this function, please go to the vignette.

Author(s)

Zuguang Gu <z.gu@dkfz.de>

Examples

```
# There is no example
NULL
```

GetoptLong.options *Global options for GetoptLong()*

Description

Global options for GetoptLong()

Usage

```
GetoptLong.options(..., RESET = FALSE, READ_ONLY = NULL, LOCAL = FALSE, ADD = FALSE)
```

Arguments

...	Options, see 'Details' section.
RESET	Whether to reset options to their default values.
READ_ONLY	Whether to only return read-only options.
LOCAL	Whether to switch local mode.
ADD	Whether to add new options.

Details

Supported global options are following:

`config` Configuration of `Getopt::Long`, check <https://perldoc.pl/Getopt::Long#Configuring-Getopt::Long>.

`template_tag` The tag for identifying specifications in the template. The format should be in `left_tag CODE right_tag`.

`help_style` The style of the help message.

`GetoptLong.options(...)` should be put before calling [GetoptLong](#) function.

Author(s)

Zuguang Gu <z.gu@dkfz.de>

Examples

```
# There is no example
NULL
```

get_scriptdir	<i>Directory of current script</i>
---------------	------------------------------------

Description

Directory of current script

Usage

```
get_scriptdir()
```

Value

If the R script is not run from the command-line, it returns NULL.

Author(s)

Zuguang Gu <z.gu@dkfz.de>

Examples

```
# There is no example  
NULL
```

get_scriptname	<i>File name of current script</i>
----------------	------------------------------------

Description

File name of current script

Usage

```
get_scriptname()
```

Value

If the R script is not run from the command-line, it returns NULL.

Author(s)

Zuguang Gu <z.gu@dkfz.de>

Examples

```
# There is no example  
NULL
```

qq	<i>Simple variable interpolation in texts</i>
----	---

Description

Simple variable interpolation in texts

Usage

```
qq(..., envir = parent.frame(), code.pattern = NULL, collapse = TRUE, sep = " ")
```

Arguments

...	Text string in which variables are marked with certain rules
envir	Environment where to look for variables. By default it is the environment where <code>qq</code> is invoked. It can also be a list in which element names are the variable names to be interpolated.
code.pattern	Pattern of marks for the variables. By default it is <code>@\\{CODE\\}</code> which means you can write your variable as <code>@{variable}</code> . This value can be a vector that all patterns are searched.
collapse	If variables return vector of length larger than one, whether collapse into one string or return a vector
sep	Separator character when there are multiple templates.

Details

I like variable interpolation in Perl. But in R, if you want to concatenate plain text and variables, you need to use functions such as `paste`. However, if there are so many variables, quotes, braces in the string you want to construct, it would be painful.

This function allows you to construct strings as in Perl style. Variables are marked in the text with certain rule. `qq` will look up these variables in user's environment and replace the variable marks with their real values.

For more explanation of this function, please refer to vignette.

Author(s)

Zuguang Gu <z.gu@dkfz.de>

Examples

```
a = 1
b = "text"
qq("a = @{a}, b = '@{b}'")
qq("a = @{a}", "b = '@{b}'", sep = ", ")

a = 1:2
```

```
qq("a = @{a}, b = '@{b}'")
qq("a = @{a}, b = '@{b}'", collapse = FALSE)

a = 1
qq("a = `a`, b = ``b`'", code.pattern = "`CODE`")
```

qq.options

*Global options for qq() related functions***Description**

Global options for qq() related functions

Usage

```
qq.options(..., RESET = FALSE, READ.ONLY = NULL, LOCAL = FALSE, ADD = FALSE)
```

Arguments

...	Options, see 'Details' section.
RESET	Whether to reset options to their default values.
READ.ONLY	Whether to only return read-only options.
LOCAL	Whether to switch local mode.
ADD	Whether to add new options.

Details

Supported options are following:

cat_prefix prefix of the string which is printed by [qqcat](#)
 cat_verbose whether to print text by [qqcat](#)
 cat_strwrap whether call [strwrap](#) to wrap the string
 code.pattern code pattern for variable interpolation

Author(s)

Zuguang Gu <z.gu@dkfz.de>

Examples

```
a = 1
qq.options(cat_prefix = "[INFO] ")
qqcat("a = @{a}\n")
qq.options(cat_verbose = FALSE)
qqcat("a = @{a}\n")
qq.options(RESET = TRUE)
qq.options(code.pattern = "`CODE`")
qqcat("a = `a`\n")
qq.options(RESET = TRUE)
```

qqcat

*Print a string which has been interpolated with variables***Description**

Print a string which has been interpolated with variables

Usage

```
qqcat(..., envir = parent.frame(), code.pattern = NULL, file = "",
      sep = " ", fill = FALSE, labels = NULL, append = FALSE, cat_prefix = NULL,
      strwrap = qq.options("cat_strwrap"), strwrap_param = list(), sep2 = "")
```

Arguments

<code>...</code>	text string in which variables are marked with certain rules
<code>envir</code>	environment where to look for those variables
<code>code.pattern</code>	pattern of marks for the variables
<code>file</code>	pass to cat
<code>sep</code>	pass to cat
<code>fill</code>	pass to cat
<code>labels</code>	pass to cat
<code>append</code>	pass to cat
<code>cat_prefix</code>	prefix string. It is prior than <code>qq.options(cat_prefix)</code> .
<code>strwrap</code>	whether call strwrap to wrap the string
<code>strwrap_param</code>	parameters sent to strwrap , must be a list
<code>sep2</code>	Separation character when there are multiple templates.

Details

This function is a shortcut of

```
cat(qq(text, envir, code.pattern), ...)
```

Additionally, you can add global prefix:

```
qq.options("cat_prefix" = "[INFO] ")
qq.options("cat_prefix" = function(x) format(Sys.time(), "[%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S] "))
qq.options("cat_prefix" = NULL)
```

You can also add local prefix by specifying `cat_prefix` in [qqcat](#).

```
qqcat(text, cat_prefix = "[INFO] ")
```

Please refer to [qq](#) to find more details.

Author(s)

Zuguang Gu <z.gu@dkfz.de>

Examples

```
a = 1
b = "text"
qqcat("a = @{a}, b = '@{b}'\n")
qqcat("a = `a`, b = `b`\n", code.pattern = "`CODE`")

qq.options("cat_prefix" = function(x) format(Sys.time(), "[%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S] "))
qqcat("a = @{a}, b = '@{b}'\n")
Sys.sleep(2)
qqcat("a = @{a}, b = '@{b}'\n")
qq.options(RESET = TRUE)
```

source_script

Source the R script with command-line arguments

Description

Source the R script with command-line arguments

Usage

```
source_script(file, ..., argv_str = NULL)
```

Arguments

file	The R script
...	Pass to source .
argv_str	The command-line arguments.

Examples

```
# There is no example
NULL
```

Index

cat, [8](#)

get_scriptdir, [5](#)

get_scriptname, [5](#)

GetOptions, [2](#)

GetoptLong, [2](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)

GetoptLong.options, [4](#)

paste, [6](#)

qq, [6](#), [6](#), [8](#)

qq.options, [7](#)

qqcat, [7](#), [8](#), [8](#)

source, [9](#)

source_script, [9](#)

strwrap, [7](#), [8](#)