

Package ‘datetimeutils’

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Type Package

Title Utilities for Dates and Times

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Description Utilities for handling dates and times, such as selecting particular days of the week or month, formatting timestamps as required by RSS feeds, or converting timestamp representations of other software (such as 'MATLAB' and 'Excel') to R. The package is lightweight (no dependencies, pure R implementations) and relies only on R's standard classes to represent dates and times ('Date' and 'POSIXt'); it aims to provide efficient implementations, through vectorisation and the use of R's native numeric representations of timestamps where possible.

Suggests tinytest

License GPL-3

URL <http://enricoschumann.net/R/packages/datetimeutils/>,
<https://github.com/enricoschumann/datetimeutils>

LazyData yes

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Unicode, Inc. [dtr, cph] (source of timezone names in 'tznames')

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datetimeutils-package *Utilities for Dates and Times*

Description

Utilities for handling dates and times, such as selecting particular days of the week or month, formatting timestamps as required by RSS feeds, or converting timestamp representations of other software (such as 'MATLAB' and 'Excel') to R. The package is lightweight (no dependencies, pure R implementations) and relies only on R's standard classes to represent dates and times ('Date' and 'POSIXt'); it aims to provide efficient implementations, through vectorisation and the use of R's native numeric representations of timestamps where possible.

Details

Helper functions for dealing with times and dates.

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann

Maintainer: Enrico Schumann <es@enricoschumann.net>

References

B.D. Ripley and K. Hornik. *Date-Time Classes*. R-News, **1**(2):8–12, 2001.

See Also

[DateTimeClasses](#), [Dates](#)

| | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| business_days | <i>Business Days</i> |
|---------------|----------------------|

Description

Check whether a timestamp of class `Date` or `POSIXt` is a business day; compute past or future business days.

Usage

```
is_businessday(x, holidays = NULL)
is_weekend(x)
previous_businessday(x, holidays = NULL, shift = -1)
prev_bday(x, holidays = NULL, shift = -1)
next_businessday(x, holidays = NULL, shift = 1)
next_bday(x, holidays = NULL, shift = 1)
```

Arguments

| | |
|----------|--|
| x | a vector of class <code>Date</code> or <code>POSIXt</code> |
| holidays | A vector of class <code>Date</code> , or a character vector in a format that is understood by <code>as.Date</code> , or anything that can be coerced to class <code>Date</code> by <code>as.Date</code> (e.g. <code>POSIXt</code>). Not supported yet. |
| shift | integer |

Details

`is_weekend` checks whether a given date is a Saturday or Sunday.

`previous_businessday` takes a `Date` `x` and returns the last non-weekend day before. When `shift` is less than -1, the function evaluates to the `shift`-th previous day. When `shift` is 0, the function will return `x` if it is a business day, else the previous business day. `next_businessday` works analogously. There are shorter-named versions `next_bday` and `prev_bday`.

Value

Logical.

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann

References

B.D. Ripley and K. Hornik. *Date-Time Classes*. R-News, **1**(2):8–12, 2001.

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

```
is_weekend(Sys.Date())
previous_businessday(Sys.Date())
next_businessday(Sys.Date())
```

`convert_date`*Convert Various Formats to Date*

Description

Convert dates in external formats (e.g. from MATLAB) to `Date` or `POSIXct`.

Usage

```
convert_date(x, type, fraction = FALSE, tz = "")
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| <code>x</code> | numeric |
| <code>type</code> | character: "excel", "matlab" and "spss"/"pspp" are supported. |
| <code>fraction</code> | logical: should fractional dates (i.e. times) be used? Default is FALSE. |
| <code>tz</code> | character: if fraction is TRUE, then what time zone is to be assumed? Default is "", i.e. the local time zone. |

Details

Convert the numeric representation of a date to class `Date`. For Excel, only the Windows format is supported. Note that dates before 1 March 1900 are probably wrong since Excel considers 1900 a leap year (which it is not).

Value

A vector of class `Date`, or `POSIXct` if fraction is TRUE.

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann; type spss/pspp suggested and based on a patch by J\'org Beyer

See Also

[as.Date](#), [as.POSIXlt](#)

Examples

```
convert_date(40000, "excel")
```

`convert_tz`*Convert a Timestamp from one Timezone to Another*

Description

Convert a timestamp from one timezone to another.

Usage

```
convert_tz(datetime, from = "", to)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| <code>datetime</code> | character: YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS |
| <code>from</code> | the timezone of <code>datetime</code> . If "", the local timezone is used. |
| <code>to</code> | to timezone to which <code>datetime</code> should be converted |

Details

See [timezones](#).

Be careful: if the specified timezone does not exist on your system, the function will **not** return an error.

Value

[POSIXct](#)

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann

References

B.D. Ripley and K. Hornik. *Date-Time Classes*. R-News, **1**(2):8–12, 2001.

See Also

[POSIXct](#)

Examples

```

convert_tz("2016-05-10 12:00:00",
           "America/Chicago", "America/Chicago")

convert_tz("2016-05-10 12:00:00",
           "Europe/Berlin", "America/Chicago")

convert_tz(Sys.time(), to = "Europe/London")
convert_tz(Sys.time(), to = "America/Chicago")

```

end_of_period

Handling and Manipulating Dates and Times

Description

Functions for manipulating vectors that inherit from class POSIXt or Date.

Usage

```

is_leapyear(x)

first_of_month(x)
end_of_month(x, shift = 0L)
end_of_previous_month(x)

first_of_year(x)
end_of_year(x, shift = 0L)
end_of_previous_year(x)

end_of_quarter(x, shift = 0L)

day_of_month(x)
day_of_month(x) <- value
mday(x)
mday(x) <- value

month(x, as.character = FALSE)
year(x, as.character = FALSE)

```

Arguments

x a vector of class Date
value a vector of integers

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| shift | integer |
| as.character | logical |

Details

end_of_month returns the last calendar day of a given month. If shift is positive, then shift months into the future; if negative, the end of previous months. end_of_month(x, -1) is equivalent to end_of_previous_month(x). end_of_year works in the same way, but for calendar years. mday is a wrapper for day_of_month.

Value

Vectors of class Date or POSIXct; or logical

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann

References

B.D. Ripley and K. Hornik. *Date-Time Classes*. R-News, **1**(2):8–12, 2001.

See Also

[DateTimeClasses](#)

Many useful functions are also in package **chron**.

Examples

```
## vectorisation: x *or* shift (but not both!)
end_of_month(as.Date("2013-01-15"), shift = c(-1, 0, 1))
end_of_month(as.Date("2013-01-15") + 0:100)

day_of_month(d <- as.Date("2013-01-22"))
day_of_month(d) <- 5
d
```

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| guess_datetime | <i>Guess Timestamp Format</i> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|

Description

Tries to convert a character vector to POSIXct.

Usage

```
guess_datetime(s, date.only = FALSE, within = FALSE, tz = "",
               try.patterns = NULL)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------------|---|
| s | character |
| date.only | logical: try to guess dates only (if TRUE) or times as well (if FALSE) |
| within | logical: ignore surrounding text? Note that trailing text is always ignored, see as.Date . |
| tz | character: timezone to assume for times. Default is the current timezone. See argument tz in as.POSIXct |
| try.patterns | either <code>NULL</code> or a character vector. See Details and Examples. |

Details

The function first coerces its argument to character. It then applies a list of patterns to each element of s. Let d be a numeric digit; then the rules are roughly those in the table below. (For the precise rules, see Examples below.)

| <i>original pattern</i> | <i>assumed format</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ddd-dd-dd dd:dd:dd | %Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S |
| dd/dd/dddd dd:dd:dd | %m/%d/%Y %H:%M:%S |
| dd.dd.dddd dd:dd:dd | %d.%m.%Y %H:%M:%S |

The rules are followed in the given order; an element will be matched only once. If there is a match, [strptime](#) will be tried with the *assumed format* (when date.only is TRUE, [as.Date](#) will be tried). For elements that do not match any pattern or for which [strptime](#) fails, `NA` is returned.

Additional patterns can be specified as try.patterns. This must be a character vector with an even number of elements: the first of each pair of elements is used as the pattern in a regular expression; the second as the format string passed to [strptime](#). See Examples.

Value

[POSIXct](#)

Warning

If you know the format of a timestamp, then **do not use this function** (use [strptime](#) instead). If you have no idea at all about the format of a timestamp, then **do not use this function**.

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann

See Also

[strptime](#)

Examples

```

s <- c(" 1999-08-19    10:00:31  ",
      " 1999-08-19 10:00",
      "19.8.1999 10:00",
      "8/19/99    10:00:31",
      "8/19/1999 10:00:31",
      "19.8.1999 10:00:31")

guess_datetime(s)

## the actual rules
rules <- as.data.frame(matrix(datetimeutils:::dt_patterns,
                             byrow = TRUE, ncol = 2),
                    stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
names(rules) <- c("pattern", "assumed_format")
rules

## -----

## a function for finding old files by looking at the
## dates in filenames (e.g. in a backup directory)
old_files <- function(min.age = 365, ## in days
                    path = ".",
                    recursive = FALSE,
                    full.names = FALSE) {

  files <- dir(path, recursive = recursive, full.names = full.names)
  dates <- guess_datetime(files, date.only = TRUE, within = TRUE)

  age <- as.numeric(Sys.Date() - dates)
  old <- age >= min.age

  files[ !is.na(old) & old ]
}

## -----

## specifying additional formats

s <- c("19-08-99",
      "29-2-00")
guess_datetime(s, date.only = TRUE)
## NA NA
guess_datetime(s, date.only = TRUE,
              try.patterns = c("[0-9]+-[0-9]+-[0-9]+", "%d-%m-%y"))
## "1999-08-19" "2000-02-29"

```

`last_weekday`*Functions for Computing Days of the Week*

Description

Functions for computing a specified day-of-week, such as ‘the last Friday of October 2015’.

Usage

```
last_weekday(weekday, x, shift = 0L,  
             period = "month", before, inclusive = TRUE)  
nth_weekday(weekday, x, n = 1L)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| <code>x</code> | a vector of class <code>Date</code> (but only the YYYY-MM part is relevant) |
| <code>shift</code> | a vector of integers |
| <code>weekday</code> | an integer (1 is Monday, 2 is Tuesday, and so on) |
| <code>period</code> | character. Currently ignored. |
| <code>before</code> | a <code>Date</code> . See also <code>inclusive</code> . |
| <code>inclusive</code> | logical. Is <code>before</code> meant is ‘before but including’? |
| <code>n</code> | an integer |

Details

`last_weekday` computes the last day-of-the-week (specified as an integer 0 to 6, with Sunday being 0) in a given month, e.g. ‘the last Friday’. `shift` moves forward (when positive) or backward (when negative) by one week; see Examples.

`nth_weekday` gives the n -th day-of-the-week (specified as an integer 0 to 6, with Sunday being 0) of a given month, e.g. ‘the second Monday’.

Value

`Date`

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann

References

B.D. Ripley and K. Hornik. *Date-Time Classes*. R-News, **1**(2):8–12, 2001.

See Also

[DateTimeClasses](#)

Many useful functions are also in package **chron**.

Examples

```
## GOAL:      find the third Friday in March 2013
## SOLUTION:  find the last Friday in February 2013 and
##            shift forward by 3 weeks
last_weekday(5, as.Date("2013-02-01"), shift = 3)

## ... or much simpler
nth_weekday(5, as.Date("2013-03-01"), 3)
```

month.name.de

Non-English Month Names and Abbreviations

Description

Month names and abbreviations in languages other than English: Currently only German is supported.

Usage

```
month.name.de
month.abb.de.din1355.1
```

Format

Character vectors; encoded as UTF-8 if necessary.

Details

Character vectors, encoded as UTF-8.

month.abb.de.din1355.1 contains the abbreviations of the withdrawn DIN 1355-1, which uses "Mrz" for March.

Source

https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/DIN_1355-1

References

https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/DIN_1355-1

Examples

```
month.name.de
month.name.de[month(Sys.Date())]
```

 nth_day

Compute Reference Dates

Description

Compute sequences of reference dates, such as last day of month or first day of quarter.

Usage

```
nth_day(timestamps, period = "month", n,
        start, end, business.days = FALSE,
        missing = "previous", index = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------------|---|
| timestamps | timestamps: a sorted vector of Dates |
| period | numeric or character: supported are "week", "month", "quarter", "halfyear", "year". If numeric, period is interpreted as a month number, with January being 1. Also possible are month names, either English as in month.name or month.abb , or as defined in the current locale (see strftime format specification "%b" and "%B"). |
| n | numeric or character: currently supported are "first" and "last". If numeric, it will be interpreted as the <i>n</i> -th day of the period. |
| start | Date |
| end | Date |
| business.days | logical |
| missing | character. Not supported yet. |
| index | logical. If TRUE, the indices (instead of actual timestamps) are returned. |

Details

The function computes sequences of dates that are often used as reference dates, for instance in financial reporting: last day of the month or of the year, or a particular day of the month.

The function takes a vector of timestamps and returns a subset of these timestamps. Alternatively, a sequence of calendar days may be constructed by specifying start and end.

Value

A vector of timestamps or, if index is TRUE, a vector of integers.

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann

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

```

timestamps <- seq(from = as.Date("2001-01-01"),
                  to   = as.Date("2001-04-15"),
                  by   = "1 day")

nth_day(timestamps, period = "quarter", n = "last")
## [1] "2001-03-31" "2001-04-15"

nth_day(timestamps, period = "quarter", n = 10)
## [1] "2001-01-10" "2001-04-10"

nth_day(timestamps, period = "quarter", n = 1:2)
## [1] "2001-01-01" "2001-01-02" "2001-04-01" "2001-04-02"

nth_day(timestamps, period = "month", n = "last")
## [1] "2001-01-31" "2001-02-28" "2001-03-31" "2001-04-15"

nth_day(start = as.Date("2016-06-03"),
        end   = as.Date("2017-08-01"),
        period = c(6, 12), n = 3)
## [1] "2016-06-05" "2016-12-03" "2017-06-03"

nth_day(start = as.Date("2016-06-03"),
        end   = as.Date("2017-08-01"),
        period = c("Jun", "Dec"), n = c(3, 5))
## [1] "2016-06-05" "2016-06-07" "2016-12-03" "2016-12-05"
## [5] "2017-06-03" "2017-06-05"

```

rfc822t

Format Date and Time as Described in RFC 822

Description

Format a timestamp as described in RFC 822.

Usage

```
rfc822t(x, include.dow = TRUE)
```

Arguments

`x` a vector that can be coerced to [POSIXlt](#)

`include.dow` logical; include the day of the week?

Details

Formats a timestamp as ‘%Y %H:%M:%S %z’, possibly prepending an abbreviated day-of-week. The function ignores the current locale: day-of-week and month names are in English. The format is required for timestamps in RSS feeds.

Value

a character vector

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann

References

<https://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc0822.txt>

<https://www.rssboard.org/rss-specification>

See Also

[strftime](#), [date](#)

Examples

```
rfc822t(Sys.time())
```

roundPOSIXt

Round POSIXt Objects to Specified Interval

Description

Round POSIXt objects to specified intervals such as ‘5 minutes’.

Usage

```
roundPOSIXt(t, interval, up = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|----------|---|
| t | a vector that inherits from class POSIXt |
| interval | A character string of the form “num units”, in which num is a number, and units is sec, min, hour or day. num and units must be separated by white space. |
| up | logical: round down (the default) or up? |

Details

roundPOSIXt rounds an input of class POSIXt; it returns a vector of class POSIXct.

Value[POSIXct](#)**Author(s)**

Enrico Schumann

ReferencesB.D. Ripley and K. Hornik. *Date-Time Classes*. R-News, **1**(2):8–12, 2001.**See Also**[DateTimeClasses](#)**Examples**

```
times <- as.POSIXct("2012-03-24 22:17:27") + 1:3
roundPOSIXt(times, "10 min")
roundPOSIXt(times, "10 min", TRUE)
```

timegrid

*POSIXct Time Grid***Description**

Build an equally-spaced sequence of POSIXct timestamps.

Usage

```
timegrid(from, to, interval,
         exclude.weekends = TRUE, holidays = NULL,
         fromHHMMSS = "080000", toHHMMSS = "220000")
```

Arguments

| | |
|------------------|--|
| from | a vector of length one that inherits from class POSIXt . If there from has a time-zone attribute, it will be used for the grid. |
| to | a vector of length one that inherits from class POSIXt |
| interval | A character string like “num units”, in which num is a number, and units is sec, min, hour or day. num and units must be separated by white space. |
| exclude.weekends | logical; default is TRUE |
| fromHHMMSS | A character vector of length one like “HHMMSS”. Times-of-day earlier than HHMMSS are excluded from the grid. The applicable timezone will be taken from the from argument. |

| | |
|----------|---|
| toHHMMSS | A character vector of length one like “HHMMSS”. Times-of-day later than HHMMSS are excluded from the grid. The applicable timezone will be taken from the from argument. |
| holidays | A vector of class <code>Date</code> , or a character vector in a format that is understood by <code>as.Date</code> , or anything that can be coerced to class <code>Date</code> by <code>as.Date</code> (eg, <code>POSIXt</code>). |

Details

timegrid creates an equally-spaced grid of class `POSIXct`.

Value

a vector of class `POSIXct` (or a character vector of length zero, in case no valid points remain)

Author(s)

Enrico Schumann

References

B.D. Ripley and K. Hornik. *Date-Time Classes*. R-News, **1**(2):8–12, 2001.

See Also

`strftime`, `date`

Examples

```
from <- as.POSIXct("2012-04-30 08:00:00")
to <- as.POSIXct("2012-05-04 22:00:00")
timegrid(from, to, interval = "1 hour",
         holidays = as.Date("2012-05-01"))

timegrid(as.POSIXct("2017-06-23 21:00:00"), ## system timezone
         as.POSIXct("2017-06-26 10:00:00"),
         interval = "15 min")
timegrid(as.POSIXlt("2017-06-23 21:00:00", tz = "UTC"),
         as.POSIXlt("2017-06-26 10:00:00", tz = "UTC"),
         interval = "15 min")
```

| | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| tznames | <i>Timezone Names</i> |
|---------|-----------------------|

Description

A mapping between tz database (a.k.a. Olson database) and Windows timezone names.

Usage

```
data("tznames")
```

Format

A data frame of the following 2 variables:

Windows a character vector: the timezone names used under Windows and its applications (e.g. in Outlook calendars)

Olson a character vector of the names returned by [OlsonNames](#)

Details

The data are auto-generated from file windowsZones.xml in the Unicode Common Locale Data Repository (<http://cldr.unicode.org/>). See <https://www.unicode.org/copyright.html> and <https://www.unicode.org/license.html> for the terms of use.

There is no 1-to-1 mapping between names: several Olson names typically map to a single Windows name.

Source

Unicode Common Locale Data Repository (CLDR) <http://cldr.unicode.org/>

References

See <https://www.iana.org/time-zones> and <http://web.cs.ucla.edu/~eggert/tz/tz-link.htm> for more information about the tz database.

See also [OlsonNames](#).

A plain-text table is at <https://github.com/enricoschumann/datetimeutils/blob/master/data/tznames.txt>

Examples

```
str(tznames)
```

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