### TODO

## R topics documented:

br.hist\* function options

br.hist.csv

br.bulk.desc

br.idx

br.hist

br.desc

br.md2pdf

br.sample

Internal BloomR functions

Manage connections

Misc functions

Beta functionalities

Beta misc functions

Deprecated functions

Time extension functions

Simulated mode now returns NULL for empty sec, br.raw an zero rows DF, choose what is better and modify docs and code accordingly, that is br.sample, \_br.raw, br.hist

When in br.desc 'CIE\_DES\_BULK' is not available use NA done set it in log allow br.desc/br.bulk.desc to use simulated mode Fix XXXX paragraphs

### BloomR main functions

# br.hist\* function options

Historical data options

### Description

Key/Values for option.names, option.values used by br.hist\* function family.

#### Details

option.names and option.values are options vectors affecting the returned data. Options are set pairwise, for example to set opt1 and opt2 respectively to val1 and val2, you would pass the arguments:

option.names=c("opt1", "opt2"), option.values=c("val1", "val2")

Here is a list of options:

periodicityAdjustment Determine the frequency and calendar type of the output. To be used in conjunction with periodicitySelection. If ACTUAL, it reverts to the actual date from today (if the end date is left blank) or from the End Date. If CALENDAR, (for pricing fields), it reverts to the last business day of the specified calendar period. Calendar Quarterly (CQ), Calendar Semi-Annually (CS), or Calendar Yearly (CY). If FISCAL, it reverts to the fiscal period end for the company - Fiscal Quarterly (FQ), Fiscal Semi-Annually (FS) and Fiscal Yearly (FY) only.

**periodicitySelection** Determine the frequency of the output. To be used in conjunction with periodicityAdjustment. if DAILY, WEEKLY, MONTHLY, QUARTERLY, SEMI\_ANNUALLY, YEARLY.

- **currency** Amends the value from local to desired currency. The value is a 3 letter ISO code string, e.g. USD, GBP. View WCV<GO> on the Bloomberg terminal for the full list.
- **overrideOption** Indicates whether to use the average or the closing price in quote calculation. Values can be OVERRIDE\_OPTION\_CLOSE for using the closing price or OVERRIDE\_OPTION\_GPA for the average price.
- pricingOption Sets quote to Price or Yield for a debt instrument whose default value is quoted in yield (depending on pricing source). PRICING\_OPTION\_PRICE sets quote to price; PRICING\_OPTION\_YIELD sets quote to yield.
- nonTradingDayFillOption Sets to include/exclude non trading days where no data was generated. NON\_TRADING\_WEEKDAYS includes all weekdays (Monday to Friday); ALL\_CALENDAR\_DAYS includes all days of the calendar; ACTIVE\_DAYS\_ONLY includes only the days where the instrument and field pair were updated.
- nonTradingDayFillMethod If data is to be displayed for non trading days what is the data to be returned.
  PREVIOUS\_VALUE searches back and retrieve the previous value available for this security field pair. The search back period is up to one month. NIL\_VALUE returns blank for the "value" value within the data element for this field.
- maxDataPoints the maximum number of data points to return. If the original data set is larger, the response will be a subset, containing only the last maxDataPoints data points.
- **returnEids** returns the entitlement identifiers associated with security. If TRUE, populates data with an extra element containing a name and value for the EID date.
- returnRelativeDate returns data with a relative date. If TRUE, populates data with an extra element containing a name and value for the relative date. For example RELATIVE\_DATE = 2002 Q2
- adjustmentNormal Adjust for "change on day". If TRUE, adjusts historical pricing to reflect: Regular Cash, Interim, 1st Interim, 2nd Interim, 3rd Interim, 4th Interim, 5th Interim, Income, Estimated, Partnership Distribution, Final, Interest on Capital, Distribution, Prorated.
- adjustmentAbnormal Adjusts for Anormal Cash Dividends. If TRUE, adjusts historical pricing to reflect: Special Cash, Liquidation, Capital Gains, Long-Term Capital Gains, Short-Term Capital Gains, Memorial, Return of Capital, Rights Redemption, Miscellaneous, Return Premium, Preferred Rights Redemption, Proceeds/Rights, Proceeds/Shares, Proceeds/Warrants.
- adjustmentSplit Capital Changes Defaults. If TRUE, adjusts historical pricing and/or volume to reflect: Spin-Offs, Stock Splits/Consolidations, Stock Dividend/Bonus, Rights Offerings/Entitlement.
- adjustmentFollowDPDF If TRUE (defaults) Follow the Bloomberg function as from DPDF<GO>.
- CalendarCodeOverride Returns the data based on the calendar of the specified country, exchange, or religion. Value is a two character calendar code as from CDR<GO>. This will cause the data to be aligned according to the calendar and including calendar holidays. Only applies only to DAILY requests.
- calendarOverridesInfo (Experimental, not tested) Returns data based on the calendar code of multiple countries, exchanges, or religious calendars as from CDR<GO>. This will cause the data to be aligned according to the set calendar(s) including their calendar holidays and only applies to DAILY requests. Requires calendarOverrides, which is a character vector of two-character calendar codes as from CDR<GO>; calendareOverridesOperation, which can be CDR\_AND returning the intersection of trading days among multiple calendars or CDR\_OR returning the union of trading days. That is, a data point is returned if a date is a valid trading day for any of the calendar codes specified in the request.
- Overrides (Experimental, not tested) Append overrides to modify the calculation. fieldID specifies a field mnemonic or alpha-numeric, such as PR092 or PRICING\_SOURCE. Review FLDS for list of possible overrides. value sets the desired override value

#### Value

A data frame with historical data. If tickers are displayed, the first column shows tickers, the second one the time series dates and the following ones the values of the queried fields; otherwise the columns start with dates. Dates will also be shown as rows if dates.as.row.names=TRUE. If multiple tickers are queried, they are vertically stacked respecting the order in securities vector.

### br.hist.csv

Historical data from grouped tickers in a CSV file

Reads a CSV file containing a group of tickers in each column and returns the historical data in xts or list format. The CSV file is assumed to have headers denoting group labels. It replaces 'br.bulk.csv"

### Usage

## **Arguments**

**con** the connection token returned from br.open(). If NULL simulated values are generated. **file** path to CSV file.

field case insensitive string denoting the Bloomberg field queried. Defaults to "PX\_LAST". If the field is wrong or not accessible, data will be empty, but no error will be raised.

start start date. Can be a Date object or an ISO string without separators (YYYYMMDD). Defaults to 5 days before current date.

end.date end date. Same format as start. Defaults to current date.

cols Logical or integer vector for selecting CSV columns (ticker groups). Defaults to all columns.

comma to be set to FALSE for (non-English) CSV, using semicolon as separator.

addtype If a string, it denotes the security type and is added to all tickers; if TRUE "Equity", will be added; if FALSE (the default), nothing will be added.

**showtype** if TRUE, security types will be removed from names of list or xts output. It defaults to FALSE. **use.xts** if TRUE (the default) time series are formatted as xts objects. else as a data frame.

merge.xts if TRUE (the default) xts objects in the same group are merged using all rows and using NAs for missing observations.

option.names list of Bloomberg options names. Require option.values too.

option.values list of Bloomberg options values related to option.names.

only.trading.days if TRUE (the default) only trading days are used, else non-trading days are added as NA values.

price, mean, sd, jitter, same.dates, empty.sec, weekend, holidays arguments passed to br.sample()
if con=NULL.

#### **Details**

Empty CSV cells or cells interpreted as NAs will be ignored.

If con=NULL, values are simulated by means of br.sample(). This function is used with default values, except for start, end.date, price, mean, sd, jitter, same.dates, empty.sec, weekend, holidays,

which can be explicitly passed as arguments, and sec.names depending on tickers found in the CSV file. These arguments are ignored if con!=NULL. See br.sample() help for more.

#### Value

a list where each element is the historical data of a CSV group.

If use.xts=TRUE and merge.xts=FA1SE, each group is a sub-list, whose elements are the the securoty time series as an xts object. If use.xts=TRUE and merge.xts=TRUE, each group is the merged xts object, obtained merging historical data of all securities of that group. If use.xts=FALSE, each group is a sub-list, where each element is the historical data of a security as a data frame.

If there is only one group, the first (and unique) element of the list will be returned (XXXXto check).

### Demonstration

A sample CSV with Bloomberg tickers will look like follows:

```
read.csv("mybloomr/tickers.csv")
## This file is part of BloomR and anyway available here:
## https://github.com/AntonioFasano/BloomR/blob/master/res/tickers.csv

## Financial Technology Indices
## 1 3988 HK Equity QCOM US Equity DJI Index
## 2 C US Equity CSCO US Equity DJUSFN Index
## 3 601288 CH Equity 700 HK Equity W1TEC Index
## 4 BAC US Equity IBM US Equity
```

## ## 5 Note:

- CSV group headers are mandatory;
- Group headers need not to be the same length.

HSBA LN Equity INTC US Equity

We can now download data:

```
br.simulate(is=TRUE) # Simulated mode: replace TRUE with FALSE on terminal

data=br.hist.csv(con, "mybloomr/tickers.csv")

## Processing Financial ...

## Loading 3988 HK Equity

## Loading C US Equity

## Loading 601288 CH Equity

## Loading BAC US Equity

## Loading HSBA LN Equity

## Processing Technology ...

## Loading QCOM US Equity

## Loading CSCO US Equity

## Loading TOO HK Equity

## Loading IBM US Equity

## Loading INTC US Equity
```

```
## Processing Indices ...
## Loading DJI Index
## Loading DJUSFN Index
## Loading W1TEC Index
```

Above you see some info about data being processed that we will not show anymore in the following.

If you want to have detailed ticker descriptions, see br.bulk.desc Example. Downloaded data look like follows: data

```
## $Financial
##
              3988 HK
                        C US 601288 CH BAC US HSBA LN
## 2017-06-14 10.353
                                    NA
                                           NA
                      8.882
                                                    NA
## 2017-06-15
                9.847 8.946
                                10.914 8.466
                                                    NA
                                    NA 11.344
##
  2017-06-16 10.091 10.546
                                                 9.867
##
## $Technology
##
              QCOM US CSCO US 700 HK IBM US INTC US
                        9.112 10.312
                                      8.607
## 2017-06-14
                   NA
                                                  NΑ
## 2017-06-15 10.796
                       10.476 9.419
                                         NA
                                                  NA
## 2017-06-16 11.201
                           NA 10.319 8.664
                                                  NA
##
## $Indices
##
                 DJI DJUSFN W1TEC
## 2017-06-14 10.967
                         NA 10.911
## 2017-06-15 8.672
                         NA
                                NA
## 2017-06-16 11.051 11.659
                             8.575
```

### Note:

- The name of the securities tickers is stored without the security type: "Equity", "Index", etc. If this piece of info is significant for you, pass showtype = TRUE.
- Time series start date defaults to 5 days before current date, unless you set start to: an R Date object (start=as.Date("2014/9/30")) or to a more friendly ISO string (start="20140930")).

Data are stored as a list of xts objects, each representing one group of tickers in the CSV file.

```
length(data)
## [1] 3
names(data)
## [1] "Financial" "Technology" "Indices"
class(data$Financial)
## [1] "xts" "zoo"
```

If you prefer you may get time series as data frames, and precisely as a list representing the ticker groups, where each group is in turn a list containing a data frame for each security:

```
data=br.hist.csv(con, "mybloomr/tickers.csv", use.xts=FALSE)
length(data)
```

## [1] 3

```
names (data)
## [1] "Financial" "Technology" "Indices"
class(data$Financial)
## [1] "list"
length(data$Financial)
## [1] 5
names(data$Financial)
## [1] "3988 HK"
                    "C US"
                                "601288 CH" "BAC US"
                                                          "HSBA LN"
class(data$Financial$`BAC US`)
## [1] "matrix"
By defaults time series list values from the Bloomberg "PX_LAST" field. To change the default field use:
data=br.hist.csv(con, "mybloomr/tickers.csv", field = "PX_OPEN")
You can choose to import only some of the CSV groups
## Processing Financial ...
## Loading 3988 HK Equity
## Loading C US Equity
## Loading 601288 CH Equity
## Loading BAC US Equity
## Loading HSBA LN Equity
## Processing Indices ...
## Loading DJI Index
## Loading DJUSFN Index
## Loading W1TEC Index
data=br.hist.csv(con, "mybloomr/tickers.csv", cols=c(1,3))
## or equivalently:
data=br.hist.csv(con, "mybloomr/tickers.csv", cols=c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE))
names (data)
## [1] "Financial" "Indices"
In the CSV file, if your tickers represent all equities, you can omit the type.
Consider this CSV:
read.csv("mybloomr/tickers.eqt.csv")
## This file is part of BloomR and anyway available here:
## https://github.com/AntonioFasano/BloomR/blob/master/res/tickers.eqt.csv
##
    Financial Technology
## 1
       3988 HK
                  QCOM US
          C US
                  CSCO US
## 2
## 3 601288 CH
                   700 HK
```

```
## 4 BAC US IBM US
## 5 HSBA LN INTC US
```

Note how the "Equity" type is missing! But you can use this CSV file with addtype:

```
data=br.hist.csv(con, "mybloomr/tickers.eqt.csv", addtype=TRUE)
```

Before going home, don't forget to:

```
br.close(con)
```

```
## Error in br.close(con): object 'con' not found
```

## br.bulk.desc

## Description

Get security descriptions for a vector of tickers.

## Usage

```
br.bulk.desc(con, tiks)
```

### Arguments

con the connection token returned from br.open()tiks character vector of the tickers queried for data

### Value

A list of data frames, each representing the description of a security. For the format of data frames see the function br.desc.

### Example

```
con=br.open()
data=read.csv("mybloomr/tickers.csv", as.is=TRUE)
br.bulk.desc(con, as.vector(as.matrix(data[1:2,])))
br.close(con)
```

### br.idx

### Description

Returns the historical data for the constituents of an index in xts or list format. It replaces br.bulk.idx.

## Usage

```
br.idx(con, index, field="PX_LAST", start=Sys.Date()-7, end.date=Sys.Date(),
    include.idx=TRUE, showtype=FALSE,
    use.xts=TRUE, merge.xts=TRUE,
    option.names = NULL, option.values = NULL,
    only.trading.days = TRUE,
    nsec=10, sec.names = NULL,
    price=TRUE,
    mean=ifelse(price, 10, 0.1), sd=1, jitter=0,
    same.dates=FALSE, empty.sec=0,
    weekend=TRUE, holidays=NULL)
```

### Arguments

con the connection token returned from br.open(). If NULL simulated values are generated.
index string denoting the index ticker with or without the final security type label ('Index')
include.idx if TRUE (default) returns also historical data for the index.
nsec number of simulated index constituents. Ignored if con!=NULL, it defaults to 10.
sec.names character vector with names of sampled index constituents. Ignored if con!=NULL. By default security names are like 'memb1', 'memb2', etc.

For other arguments see the function br.hist.

### **Details**

If con=NULL, values are simulated by means of br.sample(). This function is used with default values, except for nrow, nsec1, price, start, same.dates, no.na, empty.sec, sec.names.

#### Value

If use.xts=FALSE, a list where each element is the historical data of a constituent as a data frame.

If use.xts=TRUE and merge.xts=FAlSE, a list where each element is the historical data of a constituent as an xts object.

If use.xts=TRUE and merge.xts=TRUE, an xts oject where where each column is the historical data of a constituent.

If include.idx=TRUE, the last column or element will be the historical data of the index.

### br.hist

Historical data for vector of tickers

Returns the historical data for a vector of tickers in xts or list format. It replaces 'br.bulk.tiks"

## Usage

### Arguments

```
tiks Character vector of the tickers queried for data start Start date can be a POSIXlt/ct, Date, ISO string, UK string with slashes or dashes start same format of start use.xts if TRUE (the default) time series are formatted as xts objects else as a data frame. merge.xts if TRUE (the default) xts objects are merged using all rows and using NAs for missing observations. For other arguments see the function br.hist.csv.
```

### **Details**

If an element of tiks is NA or empty ("") it is ignored. This is intended to avoid errors when the character vector are read from a CSV file with empty cells.

If con=NULL, values are simulated by means of br.sample(). Sampled values are based on default values of br.sample(), but it is possible to set explicitly start, end.date, price, mean, sd, jitter, same.dates, empty.sec, weekend, holidays; sec.names depends on tiks argument. These arguments are ignored if con!=NULL. See br.sample() help for more.

#### Value

If use.xts=FALSE, a list of character matrices, where the first column, named "date", has the observation dates, the second column, named after the field, has field values. The list names are the tickers. Empty time series are returned as NULL. If all time series are empty a list of NULLs is returned.

If use.xts=TRUE and merge.xts=FAlSE, a list of xts objects, where the xts index has the observation dates and its data column, named after the field, has field values. The list names are the tickers. Empty time series are returned as NA. If all time series are empty a list of NAs is returned.

If use.xts=TRUE and merge.xts=TRUE, then when:

A) There is at least one non-empty TS, an xts object is returned, where the index has the observation dates and columns, named after the tickers, have field values. Empty time series are returned as a NA column for the related xts ticker. B) All time series are empty a vectors of NAs of the same length as the queries tickers is returned.

## Example

```
con=NULL # Open simulated connection and load some data
br.hist(con, c("MSFT US", "AMZN US"), addtype=TRUE)

## Loading MSFT US Equity

## Loading AMZN US Equity

## MSFT US AMZN US

## 2017-06-13 NA 9.078

br.close(con) # Use the token to release the connection
```

### See Also

br.hist.csv

## br.desc

## Description

Get security descriptions.

## Usage

br.desc(con, tik)

### Arguments

con the connection token returned from br.open()tik string denoting the ticker queried for data

### Value

A data frame containing the value of the Bloomberg fields form  $\tt ds001$  to  $\tt ds009$  and the long field  $\tt CIE\_DES\_BULK$ .

# br.md2pdf

## Description

Make a markdown file into a PDF It assumes that you have installed the BloomR LaTeX addons

### Usage

```
br.md2pdf(md.file, pdf.file)
```

### Arguments

md.file path to the markdown file to be converted. pdf.file path to the PDF file to be generated.

#### **Details**

The function will stop with an error if you have not installed BloomR LaTeX addons. To install them use br.getLatexAddons().

#### Value

If there are no errors, it returns zero invisibly, otherwise it prints an error message and returns the related error code.

## br.sample

### Description

Return simulated historical data for n securities in xts or df format.

## Usage

### Arguments

nrow number of simulated data points for each security; if same.dates=FALSE, the number of rows for each sampled security will be a random number not exceeding nrow, else it will be nrow for all securities. Actual number of rows depends on the value of rand.dates, weekend, holidays.

**price** if TRUE (default), simulated values are non-negative.

start start date. Can be a Date object or an ISO string without separators (YYYYMMDD). Defaults to current date.

end.date end date. Same format as start. Defaults to current date.

field case insensitive string denoting the Bloomberg field queried. Defaults to "FIELD".

use.xts if TRUE (the default) time series are formatted as xts objects else as a data frame.

mean mean of security generated values. If price=TRUE, default to 10 else defaults to 0.1.

sd sd of security generated values. It defaults to 1.

jitter modifies each security mean by adding adding a random value in [-jitter, jitter]. Defaults to 0.

rand.dates if TRUE, all sampled securities will refer to the same dates and for each security the number will equal nrow. If FALSE (default), date values and number will randomly differ. For each security the random number will not exceed nrow.

weekend if TRUE (default), weekend dates are removed.

holidays list of dates to be removed,

#### **Details**

br.sample() assumes by default that data for some securities might not be available on certain days and time series might be misaligned (see "Missing observations and misalignment" in br.hist()), therefore the date values and count for each time series generated will randomly differ, with nrow as the maximum number of days. If you want all time series to share tha same dates, set rand.dates=FALSE. In this case, time series produced are aligned and you don't see any merge NA, the acutal dates generated depends on the value of weekend and holidays. If there are no holidays falling in time windows queried and weekend=FALSE the number of generated dates equals nrow.

## Value

If use.xts=FALSE, a data frame object, where the first column is the vector with all generated dates merged and each subsequent column contains the sampled data of a security. If use.xts=TRUE, an xts object, where each element is the sampled data of a security, while the dates will be part of the xts time object. In both cases if rand.dates=TRUE generated data points might likely have different length

XXXX and the the date gaps will be filled with NAs, except if no.na=TRUE. If the generated values are only NAs the output will be converted to a 0-rows xts or data frame, containing only security labels accessible with dimnames(\*)[[2]].

### Internal BloomR functions

### Usage

### **Description:**

Internal functions not to be used by the end user

### Usage:

```
.br.is.con(con)
.br.types
.br.check.type(type)
.br.cuttype(type)
.br.jar()
.br.test.dates(start, end, holidays=NULL, asChar=FALSE)
.br.raw(security, field="PX_LAST",
   ## Start/End date can be a POSIXlt/ct, Date, ISO string, UK string with slashes or dashes.
   start.date, end.date=Sys.Date(),
   alldays=FALSE, optnams=NULL, optvals=NULL, ovrnams=NULL, ovrvals=NULL)
.br.choose.testdata(security, field="PX_LAST",
   startDate, endDate,
                           # ISO string
   alldays=FALSE, optnams=NULL, optvals=NULL, ovrnams=NULL, ovrvals=NULL)
.br.developer(mode=TRUE)
.br.is.dev()
```

.br.wpath(path) TODO XXX

### **Arguments:**

con the connection token returned from br.open()
type a string representing the security type
mode TRUE if in developer mode
alldays equivalent to !only.trading.days in br.hist
optnams, optvals, ovrnams, ovrvals equivalent to option.names, option.values, override.names,
 override.values in br.hist

See br.hist, for other .br.raw arguemnts

#### **Details**

.br.is.con checks for the validity of a connection token. .br.types is a character vector with security types suitable as an argument for BloomR multi-ticker functions. .br.check.type checks if a type matches .br.types. .br.cuttype cuts trailing security type from character vector. .br.jar() returns the path to the blpapi\*.jar .br.session object storing BloomR session information. .br.test.dates tests the validity of given start, end date, possibly against a holiday vector.

.br.developer sets developer which modifies the behaviour of some functions for debugging. .br.is.dev tests if in developer mode

.br.raw gets low level historical data. It might use stored local data in developer mode or call .br.raw\_ for actual low level download. .br.choose.testdata chooses what test data to use, when in developer mode, based on arguments or TNAMS character vector if found in the global environment.

# Manage connections

## Description

Open, close and test the connection to the Bloomberg service.

### Usage

br.open()
br.close(con)
br.simulate(is=TRUE)
br.is.sim()

#### Arguments

con the connection token returned from br.open()is if TRUE (default), simulate connection.

### **Details**

br.open returns the connection token needed by the BloomR function downloading data. When you finish you session, you pass it to br.close. If you have run br.simulate(is=TRUE), data are simulated (and your connection token is NULL). br.is.sim() tests if the connection is simulated.

If br.is.sim(), closing the connection is optional. Anyway running br.close(con), even if con==NULL avoids adding this line when you switch to a actual data download.

### Example

```
con=br.open() # Open the connection and get the token and load some data
br.hist(con, c("MSFT US", "AMZN US"), addtype=TRUE)
br.close(con) # Use the token to release the connection
```

## Misc functions

## Description

rm.all deletes all objects (variables and functions) from memory, including invisible objects (those starting with a dot). rm.var deletes non-function objects from memory.

### Usage

```
rm.all()
rm.var()
```

## Beta functionalities

## Description

Activate beta functionalities, if available for this release.

## Usage

br.beta()

## Beta misc functions

### Description

Miscellaneous functions dealing with dates.

## Usage

```
br.try.date(d)
br.is.same.class(...)
```

### **Arguments**

 $\mathbf{d}$ a POSIX<br/>lt, POSIXct, Date, "%Y/%m/%d", or "%Y-%m-%d" vector

### Details

br.try.date converts a vector to a date vector if possible or return NULL. Any vector element should be POSIXIt, POSIXct, Date, "%Y/%m/%d", or "%Y-%m-%d"

br.is.same.class check if all supplied argumets have the same class. It is mostly intended to check if dates are homogeneous.

# Deprecated functions

## Description

Functions (planned to be) deprecated.

## Usage

```
.br.sample.deprecated(nsec=NULL, no.na=NULL, df=NULL, sec.names=NULL, empty.sec=NULL, same.dates=NULL)
```

### Arguments

See current non beta BloomR.

## Time extension functions

## Description

Functions to get, set dates.

## Usage

```
day(d)
month(d)
year(d)
day(d, n)
month(d, n)
year(d, n)
```

```
day(d)=x
month(d)=x
year(d)=x
d %+% n
d %-% n
last.day(d)
day.us(d1, d2)
```

## **Arguments**

 ${f d, d1, d2}$  objects of class date  ${f x}$  an integer representing the day/month/year  ${f n}$  an integer representing the months to add/subtract

### Details

If component is day, month or year: component(d) returns the *component* of the date d as an integer; component(d, n) returns the date d with the *component* set to the integer n; component(d) = n sets to the *component* of the date d to the integer n.

%+% and %-% add and subtract months to a date.

last.day returns last day of the month as an integer. day.us calculates date differences with the US convention.