

Package ‘rexcelbridge’

September 16, 2025

Type Package

Title Bridge Excel Add-in Formulas and RTD Feeds into R (Windows)

Version 0.0.0.9000

Author Francis Tsiboe [aut, cre] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5984-1072>>)

Maintainer Francis Tsiboe <ftsiboe@hotmail.com>

Creator Francis Tsiboe

Description Vendor-neutral helpers to evaluate Excel formulas (including RTD-based add-ins like DTN ProphetX and Bloomberg) from R via COM automation. Supports single-cell results with a pluggable readiness predicate to handle transient ``Wait" tokens from providers.

License GPL-3 + file LICENSE

URL <https://github.com/you/rexcelbridge>

BugReports <https://github.com/you/rexcelbridge/issues>

Encoding UTF-8

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

VignetteBuilder knitr

Depends R (>= 4.1.0)

Imports RDCOMClient

Remotes github::omegahat/RDCOMClient

Suggests mockery, knitr, rmarkdown, withr, stats, rfcipDemand, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

LazyData true

OS_type windows

Contents

bloomberg_bds_formula	2
dtm_prophetX_formula	2
rb_ensure_addin	3
rb_eval_single	3
rb_excel_quote	4
rb_kill_excel	4
rb_ready_predicate	5
rb_start_excel	5

Index**6**

bloomberg_bds_formula *Build a Bloomberg BDS Excel formula (bulk/descriptor data)*

Description

Constructs a Bloomberg BDS formula string for bulk fields (returns a spilled table). Use with [rb_eval_single](#) to read the result.

Usage

```
bloomberg_bds_formula(security, field, overrides = NULL)
```

Arguments

security	Character scalar, e.g., "IBM US Equity" or an index/ticker.
field	Character scalar bulk field (e.g., "INDX_MEMBERS").
overrides	Optional named vector/list of overrides.

Value

A character string like:

```
=BDS("SPX Index", "INDX_MEMBERS")
```

dtn_prophetX_formula *Build a DTN ProphetX AIHIST RTD formula*

Description

Constructs a single-cell Excel formula string for the DTN ProphetX AIHIST RTD function. This can be passed to [rb_eval_single\(\)](#) to evaluate historical data directly from Excel via COM automation.

Usage

```
dtn_prophetX_formula(symbol, scale, date, field)
```

Arguments

symbol	Character. ProphetX instrument symbol (e.g., "BEANS.20254.B").
scale	Character. Time scale such as "Daily", "Weekly", or "Monthly".
date	Date or string convertible to Date. The Excel serial number is computed relative to 1899-12-30.
field	Character. Field(s) to request, such as "Open", "High", "Low", "Close", or "Description".

Details

- The returned string is not evaluated in R; it must be written into an Excel cell using `rb_eval_single()`.
- The date argument is converted to an Excel serial (days since 1899-12-30).
- Wrapping with `IFERROR(..., 0)` ensures Excel returns 0 if the RTD call fails.

Value

A character string containing a valid Excel formula of the form:

```
=IFERROR(RTD("prophetx.rtdserver", "", "AIHIST", symbol, scale, "1", date, "", field, "XD"), 0)
```

rb_ensure_addin	<i>Ensure an Excel add-in is loaded (best effort)</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Tries to locate and enable an add-in by name pattern (case-insensitive). Useful before evaluating formulas that depend on a vendor add-in.

Usage

```
rb_ensure_addin(xl, pattern)
```

Arguments

xl	Excel Application COM handle from <code>rb_start_excel()</code> .
pattern	Character regex used to match the add-in name (e.g., "ProphetX", "Bloomberg").

Value

Invisibly TRUE (no error if not found).

rb_eval_single	<i>Evaluate one or more single-cell Excel formulas</i>
----------------	--

Description

Writes each formula into successive rows of column A in a new workbook, polls until values are "ready" per a predicate, and returns the results.

Usage

```
rb_eval_single(
  formulas,
  timeout_sec = 120,
  visible = FALSE,
  ready_fn = rb_ready_predicate()
)
```

Arguments

formulas	Character vector of Excel formulas (e.g., "=SUM(1,2)", "=RTD("prophetx.rtdserver","", "AIHIST",...)"=BDP("IBM US Equity", "PX_LAST")').
timeout_sec	Max seconds to wait. Default 120.
visible	Show the Excel window. Default FALSE.
ready_fn	A readiness predicate built by rb_ready_predicate(). Default uses c("Wait", "Loading...", "N/A") as transient tokens.

Value

Data frame with columns: row, formula, result, ready.

rb_excel_quote	<i>Quote a value for use in an Excel formula</i>
----------------	--

Description

Escapes embedded quotes and wraps non-numeric values in double quotes.

Usage

```
rb_excel_quote(x)
```

Arguments

x	Scalar to embed in an Excel formula.
---	--------------------------------------

Value

Character scalar safe to paste into a formula.

rb_kill_excel	<i>Force close all Excel processes (Windows only)</i>
---------------	---

Description

Utility to terminate every running Excel instance on the system. This is useful if RTD sessions or hidden COM objects are left running after errors or crashes. Use with caution: unsaved work in Excel will be lost.

Usage

```
rb_kill_excel(force = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)
```

Arguments

force	Logical; if TRUE, forcibly terminates without prompts (default).
verbose	Logical; print output from taskkill. Default FALSE.

Value

Invisibly returns the exit status code from taskkill (0 = success).

rb_ready_predicate	<i>Build a readiness predicate</i>
--------------------	------------------------------------

Description

Returns a function(value) that decides whether a cell is "ready". By default, treats blanks, Excel errors, and vendor "wait" tokens as NOT ready.

Usage

```
rb_ready_predicate(  
  wait_tokens = c("Wait", "Loading...", "N/A"),  
  treat_errors_as_ready = FALSE  
)
```

Arguments

wait_tokens	Character vector of tokens to be treated as "not ready" (e.g., c("Wait", "Loading...")). Case-insensitive.
treat_errors_as_ready	Logical; if TRUE, Excel errors stop the wait.

Value

A function f(x) -> TRUE if ready, FALSE otherwise.

rb_start_excel	<i>Start an Excel COM session (Windows)</i>
----------------	---

Description

Launch a hidden (by default) Excel Application via COM and configure display alerts and calculation mode (Automatic).

Usage

```
rb_start_excel(visible = FALSE)
```

Arguments

visible	Logical; show the Excel window. Default FALSE.
---------	--

Value

A COM handle to the Excel Application object.

Index

bloomberg_bds_formula, [2](#)

dtn_prophetX_formula, [2](#)

rb_ensure_addin, [3](#)

rb_eval_single, [2](#), [3](#)

rb_excel_quote, [4](#)

rb_kill_excel, [4](#)

rb_ready_predicate, [5](#)

rb_start_excel, [5](#)